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International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space

Implementation of the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III)

Report of the Secretary-General*

Summary

The present report describes the mechanism established by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to implement the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III) and reviews the latest developments in the work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies as well as of the Office for Outer Space Affairs. It indicates how the mechanism is creating synergy between the efforts made by the Committee, the Office and other entities of the United Nations system as well as other intergovernmental and non-governmental entities towards the goal of using the benefits of space science and technology and their applications to promote sustainable development.

* The present report was prepared by the Office for Outer Space Affairs following the adoption of the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on its work at the forty-fifth session, in order to reflect in particular the latest developments in the work of the Committee and the action teams.

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I. Introduction

1. The General Assembly, in its resolution 54/68 of 6 December 1999, took note with satisfaction of the report of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III),[1] which was convened in Vienna from 19 to 30 July 1999, and endorsed the resolution entitled "The Space Millennium: Vienna Declaration on Space and Human Development".[2] In its resolution 56/51 of 10 December 2001, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III. The present report has been prepared in response to that request.

II. Action taken by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subsidiary bodies

2. In implementing the recommendations of UNISPACE III, the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space takes two complementary approaches. One is for the Committee and its subcommittees to consider selected elements of the strategy contained in the Vienna Declaration as agenda items of those bodies. The other is for the action teams established by the Committee at its forty-fourth session to conduct work throughout the year. The action teams report on their work to the Committee and its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at their annual sessions for review and approval during their consideration of the agenda item on "Implementation of the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space".

A. Revised structure of the agendas of the Committee's subcommittees

3. In 1999, the Committee revised the structure of the agendas of its subcommittees, enabling the subcommittees to introduce new agenda items either under multi-year work plans with clear objectives to be achieved within a fixed time period or as single issues/items for discussion to be considered for one session only. A list of agenda items that have relevance to the recommendations of UNISPACE III is contained in annex I to the present report.

4. Some of the items on the agendas of the Committee and its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee have direct relevance to the work of the action teams. Recommendations made by the Committee and the Subcommittee under those agenda items provide policy guidelines to the respective action teams.

B. Action teams to implement the recommendations of UNISPACE III

5. At its forty-fourth session, the Committee established 11 action teams to implement the recommendations of UNISPACE III which had been accorded highest priority by Member States or for which there had been an offer by Member States to lead associated activities. The Committee had identified those recommendations based on the results of a survey conducted among Member States. As requested by the Committee, the Office for Outer Space Affairs had also conducted a survey among the entities of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations with observer status with the Committee to identify the recommendations for which they wished to be members of the action teams. The list of the action teams and participating Member States and organizations is contained in annex II to the present report. The Office also compiled a list of contacts in those States and organizations participating in the action teams and made it available on its web site (http://www.oosa.unvienna.org/unisp-3/followup-teams_contact_list.html).

6. In 2002, all action teams reported to the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee on the objectives, work plans and final products to be delivered, and to the Committee on further developments in their work. The Committee expressed its appreciation to all chairs of the action teams and agreed that Member States should provide full support to the action teams in conducting their work. Following the agreement of the Committee in 2001 that the action teams should actively consider non-governmental entities that could be invited to participate in their work, some action teams had involved many non-governmental entities in their work.

7. As at 1 July 2002, 50 Member States had joined one or more action teams as members. In addition, 12 entities of the United Nations system, including the Office for Outer Space Affairs, and 23 intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental entities, including 9 organizations that have permanent observer status with the Committee, participated in the action teams.

C. Promotion of the participation of youth in space activities

8. The Vienna Declaration called for action to provide children and youth with opportunities to learn more about space science and technology and their importance to human development and to participate fully in activities related to space science and technology. The Vienna Declaration also called for action to create, within the framework of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, a consultative mechanism to facilitate the continued participation of young people from all over the world in space-related activities.

9. Regarding the opportunities for children and youth, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee considered the agenda item entitled "Government and private activities to promote education in space science and engineering" at its thirty-eighth session. During its consideration of the new agenda item entitled "Space and society" at its forty-fifth session, the Committee noted that outer space was a theme that could attract children to science and mathematics and could increase the number of professionals entering those fields. The Committee stressed the importance of education in space science and engineering, through both government and private activities.

10. Regarding the above-mentioned consultative mechanism, the General Assembly, in its resolution 56/51, decided to grant permanent observer status with the Committee to the Space Generation Advisory Council, which originated from the Space Generation Forum, which was organized by and for young professionals and university students during UNISPACE III. The Office for Outer Space Affairs supported the activities of the Space Generation Advisory Council by holding a series of symposiums on enhancing the participation of youth in space activities (see para. 30, below).

D. Strengthening partnerships with non-governmental entities

11. UNISPACE III recognized the importance of involving civil society, including industry, in promoting international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space for the benefit and in the interest of all States. Following a recommendation by UNISPACE III, the Subcommittee held symposiums to strengthen its partnership with industry, and with the participation of speakers from industry, at its sessions in 2000, 2001 and 2002. The theme of the 2002 symposium was "Expanding operational applications of very high resolution remote sensing: potential and challenges in civilian applications".

12. An increasing number of non-governmental entities have been participating in the work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies as observers. At present, 16 intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations have permanent observer status with the Committee. Following UNISPACE III, three non-governmental organizations, the European Association for the International Space Year, the National Space Society and the Space Generation Advisory Council were granted permanent observer status with the Committee. At its forty-fifth session, the Committee recommended that two more non-governmental entities, the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) and the Spaceweek International Association (SIA), should be granted observer status.

E. Preparations for the review of the recommendations of UNISPACE III in 2004

13. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 56/51, the Committee established a Working Group to prepare a report to be submitted to the General Assembly, in order for the Assembly to review and appraise, at its fifty-ninth session, in 2004, the implementation of the outcome of UNISPACE III and to consider further actions and initiatives. The Committee requested the Working Group to make recommendations on the format, scope and organizational aspects of the above-mentioned review by the Assembly.

14. The Working Group recommended that, in order for the Assembly to review the progress, a separate item entitled "Review of the implementation of the

recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space" should be included in the agenda of the Assembly at its fifty-ninth session, in 2004, for consideration in plenary. The Working Group also made recommendations on actions needed, sources of information, a draft outline and a timetable for preparing the report. The Committee endorsed the recommendations of the Working Group as contained in its report.[3]

III. Implementation of the plan of action of the Office for Outer Space Affairs

15. In 2000, the Committee endorsed the plan of action proposed by the Office for Outer Space Affairs to implement recommendations of UNISPACE III.[4] In its resolution 55/122, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to ensure the full implementation of the plan with necessary resources beginning in 2002. Within its programme of work for the biennium 2002-2003, the Office has begun to carry out activities towards the full implementation of the plan of action with necessary resources.

A. Strengthening the role of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subcommittees in promoting international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space

16. The plan of action included a biannual global survey of existing mechanisms for international cooperation in space activities and an analytical study to identify areas of space-related activities where new and innovative mechanisms for cooperation were required. The Office for Outer Space Affairs has begun to undertake those actions by assisting and contributing to the work of the action teams. In implementing their respective recommendations, the action teams assess the existing opportunities and plans for international cooperation and aim to suggest actions that need to be undertaken, particularly through international cooperation.

B. Initiating a capacity-building programme in areas relating to space law

17. A capacity-building programme in areas relating to space law is a new, major area of the activities of the Office for Outer Space Affairs. It is also in line with a strategy to be pursued under the medium-term plan for the period from 2002 to 2005 to assist developing countries in the development of national space legislation and ratification of existing outer space treaties. The Office has made available on its home page a searchable index that provides information on the status of signatures and ratification of the five international treaties governing outer space activities (http://registry.oosa.unvienna.org/oosa/treaty_status/index.stm.). The database can be searched by treaty, State or status. The Office also continues to develop, maintain and improve the database on national space laws.

18. The Office will organize the first workshop on capacity-building in space law (The Hague, 18-21 November 2002) in cooperation with the International Institute of Air and Space Law of the University of Leiden and the Government of the Netherlands. The Office is currently engaged in discussions with interested Member States to host space law workshops in the coming years.

C. Strengthening the activities of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications

19. Following UNISPACE III, the General Assembly, in its resolution 54/68, called for strengthening the activities of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications and listed a number of activities to be included in the Programme. In response to that call, the Office for Outer Space Affairs reoriented the Programme and added new activities. The Programme now concentrates on a few themes of major importance for developing countries and aims to establish objectives that can be achieved in the short and medium term. The priority themes of the Programme are: (a) disaster management; (b) satellite communications for tele-education and telemedicine applications; (c) monitoring and protection of the environment, including the prevention of infectious diseases;

(d) management of natural resources; and (e) education and capacity-building, including research areas in basic space science. Within each priority theme, the Programme will pursue the following main objectives: (a) capacity-building; and (b) building awareness among decision makers in order to strengthen local support for the operational use of space technologies.

1. Organization of workshops, seminars, symposiums and training courses

20. The plan of action includes the organization of workshops and conferences on advanced space applications and new system developments for programme managers and leaders of space technology development and applications activities in developing countries. The report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work at its forty-fifth session includes the list of workshops, training courses and symposiums carried out or planned by the United Nations Programme on Space Applications in 2002 and 2003: 13 activities have been carried out or planned in 2002, and 10 activities are currently being planned for 2003.[5]

2. Support to the regional centres for space science and technology education

21. The United Nations Programme on Space Applications continues to support the regional centres for space science and technology education and the Network of Space Science and Technology Education and Research Institutions for Central Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, which were established pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 45/72 of 11 December 1990 and 50/27 of 6 December 1995.

22. The African Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education—in English Language completed its second nine-month course on remote sensing and satellite meteorology in June 2002. The African Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology—in French Language has begun two nine-month courses, one on remote sensing and geographic information systems (GIS) and the other on satellite meteorology. By the end of July 2002, the Centre will have completed four nine-month courses.

23. The Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in Asia and the Pacific, inaugurated in India in November 1995, has conducted 13 nine-month, postgraduate courses and 10 short-term courses, covering such subjects as remote sensing and GIS, satellite communications, satellite meteorology and global climate and space science. A total of 340 scholars from 39 countries have benefited from the educational activities of the Centre.

24. With regard to the Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in Latin America and the Caribbean, preparations are under way to commence the first nine-month course on remote sensing and GIS in 2003. As for the Network of Space Science and Technology Education and Research Institutions for Central Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, its Steering Committee agreed to establish multilateral scientific cooperation among the core institutions of the Network.

25. In support of the operation of the regional centres, the Office for Outer Space Affairs convened, in cooperation with the European Space Agency (ESA), the United Nations Expert Meeting on the Regional Centres for Space Science and Technology Education (Frascati, Italy, 3-7 September 2001). The purpose of the Expert Meeting was to review the status of the establishment and operation of the regional centres and to review and update curricula at the university level and across cultures in remote sensing, satellite meteorology, satellite communications and space science. The findings and recommendations of the Expert Meeting have been submitted to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.[6]

3. Technical advisory services

26. The United Nations Programme on Space Applications has increased its efforts to undertake follow-up actions, wherever feasible, based on the recommendations of the workshops that it has organized. The areas in which the Programme currently provides technical advisory services include the following:

(a) Collaborating with ESA on follow-up activities in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean and Western Asia relating to the series of workshops on basic space science, including the distribution of regional newsletters on a regular basis;

(b) Providing assistance to the Asia-Pacific Satellite Communication Council to support its growth and operation as well as its preparations for the

Council's conference and exhibition, to be held in 2003;

(c) Providing assistance to the Disaster Management Support Group of CEOS and supporting the work of the CEOS ad hoc Working Group on Education as its co-chair;

(d) Collaborating with ESA and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat in providing technical assistance to undertake follow-up actions on several training courses held in the 1990s on applications of data from remote sensing satellites, including the following: (i) concluding a project on the use of Earth observation data for monitoring glaciers and snow cover in Latin America; (ii) concluding a project for watershed management in Asia and the Pacific; and (iii) initiating a project in Africa, in 2002, on the use of satellite data in locating and planning the management of humid areas;

(e) Providing technical advice to the Government of Colombia in its follow-up, as pro tempore secretariat, of the recommendations of the Fourth Space Conference of the Americas (Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, 14-17 May 2002).

4. Long-term fellowships

27. To promote the development of indigenous capability, five long-term fellowships will be awarded for the in-depth training of individuals from developing countries for the period 2002-2003. ESA has offered one fellowship each in satellite communications systems, space antennas and electromagnetics, and remote sensing instrumentation tenable at its European Space Technology Centre in Noordwijk, the Netherlands, and two fellowships for research in remote sensing technology tenable at its European Space Research Institute in Frascati, Italy.

28. The long-term fellowship programme has been reoriented to strengthen its effectiveness and to enhance the results of other training activities of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications. For the period 2001-2002, the two fellowships offered by ESA allowed university educators who had participated in the series of United Nations/Sweden international training courses to improve their skills and to demonstrate the practical usefulness of remote sensing through appropriate projects in their universities.

D. Establishing and strengthening the partnerships with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and industry

29. The Office for Outer Space Affairs has increased its efforts to encourage space-related non-governmental organizations and industry to contribute to the activities of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and the United Nations Programme on Space Applications. The Office organizes the industry symposium held during the annual session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and assists action teams in involving appropriate non-governmental entities. To bring to the attention of leaders of the space industry the importance of the work of the Committee, the Office has participated in meetings of the space business community and will organize activities during the World Space Congress (Houston, Texas, United States of America, 10-19 October 2002), which is expected to attract more than 10,000 people, including business leaders in space-related fields.

E. Strengthening a public outreach programme, in particular for young people

30. The Office for Outer Space Affairs continues its efforts to increase opportunities for young people to learn about space science and technology and their benefits for society. In cooperation with Austria and ESA, the Office will organize the third symposium on enhancing the participation of youth in space activities (Graz, Austria, 9-12 September 2002). The Office also supports initiatives taken by young people to promote space activities, such as the one called "Under African Skies", an initiative by a group of young professionals to bring space science to schoolchildren in African countries.

31. In its resolution 54/68, the General Assembly declared 4 to 10 October World Space Week to celebrate each year at the international level the contributions of space science and technology to the betterment of the human condition. As part of its public outreach programme, the Office plans to organize a United Nations event each year in its efforts to raise the visibility of World Space Week and to act as a catalyst for additional events to be held around the

world. This year, the Office will organize a special event in cooperation with the German Aerospace Center in Bonn. The Office also continues to work closely with such non-governmental organizations as the Spaceweek International Association.

32. To increase public awareness of the benefits of space science and technology, the Office continues to improve the space exhibit at the Vienna International Centre. The exhibit features models of spacecraft and rockets as well as interactive computer programs, among other things, and continues to attract the attention of visitors, in particular schoolchildren. Recent additions to the exhibit include a replica of a biosphere experiment designed for schoolchildren and flown onboard the International Space Station as well as a Moon rock. On the occasion of International Women's Day in March 2002, the Office presented a series of posters on "Women in Space". Similar posters are being planned on various themes.

F. Strengthening publication and information services

33. To improve the International Space Information Service, the Office uses its home page as an effective and efficient means of disseminating information on the latest developments of the work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies as well as the activities of the Office. It is also linked to other web sites on aerospace and other relevant information, for example, the International Aerospace Information Network. The on-line index of objects launched into outer space enables all users to have quick access to the information furnished in accordance with the Convention on the Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space (resolution 3235 (XXIX), annex).

IV. Further enhancement of inter-agency coordination and cooperation

34. The Vienna Declaration called for actions to encourage the increased use of space-related systems and services by the specialized agencies and programmes of the United Nations system and to strengthen the coordination of mutually beneficial activities between the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and other United Nations entities.

A. Action taken by the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities

35. The space-related activities of the organizations within the United Nations system are coordinated at the annual session of the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities. Several United Nations entities and specialized agencies have extensive space-related programmes. Details of those programmes can be found in the annual reports of the Secretary-General on the coordination of outer space activities within the United Nations system. The latest report (A/AC.105/780) contains an overview of the programme of work for 2002, 2003 and future years. Following the agreement reached at the Inter-Agency Meeting in 2000, the structure of the report has been revised to closely follow the structure of the Vienna Declaration, allowing the reader to identify easily which United Nations entities contribute to implementing specific actions recommended in the Vienna Declaration.

36. At its twenty-second session (Rome, 23-25 January 2002), the Inter-Agency Meeting continued to consider the item entitled "Methods to strengthen further inter-agency coordination and cooperation in space-related activities". The work of the Inter-Agency Meeting under the item contributes to the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee in its consideration of a similar item (see para. 39). Upon invitation by the Subcommittee, the Inter-Agency Meeting considered barriers to greater use of space applications and services within the United Nations system and possible means and mechanisms to eliminate those barriers. The Inter-Agency Meeting noted that, as there were different constituencies in the governing bodies of each organization of the United Nations system, a delegation to one forum of the system was not necessarily fully aware, in a timely manner, of the directions pursued by a delegation of the same country in a different forum. The Meeting therefore felt that closer coordination and timely information-sharing among government agencies represented at different forums on issues relating to space activities would be beneficial.

37. The Inter-Agency Meeting continues to increase the awareness of policy makers of the usefulness of space applications in promoting social and economic development. In that regard, the Inter-Agency Meeting stressed that further efforts should be made by all organizations to ensure that space-related activities would be incorporated as cross-cutting issues in each of their preparatory activities for the World Summit on Sustainable Development. As contributions to the World Summit, the Office for Outer Space Affairs and the Economic Commission for Africa jointly organized the Regional Workshop on the Use of Space Technology for Disaster Management (Addis Ababa, 1-5 July 2002) to increase awareness of policy makers in Africa of the usefulness of space technology in disaster management. Immediately prior to the World Summit, the Office will also organize a Symposium entitled "Space Technology Provides Solutions for Sustainable Development" (Stellenbosch, South Africa, 21-23 August 2002). Together with entities of the United Nations system, the Office will circulate in time for the World Summit a brochure for the general public that summarizes how space tools are being used by various entities of the United Nations system to promote sustainable development.

38. The Inter-Agency Meeting noted that a letter sent by the Chairman of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space to the Secretary-General to bring to his attention the need to consider the contributions of space science and technology in achieving the objectives of major United Nations conferences had been issued as a document of the General Assembly (A/56/306). The Assembly had subsequently invited organizations of the United Nations system to identify recommendations of major United Nations conferences that could be implemented with the use of space science and technology. In response to that call, the Inter-Agency Meeting agreed that the Office for Outer Space Affairs, with the assistance of organizations of the United Nations system, should analyse the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development to identify recommendations that could be better implemented with the use of space science and technology, as, in the view of the Inter-Agency Meeting, most of the issues addressed in the United Nations conferences held in recent years would be considered at the World Summit.

B. Action taken by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee to strengthen inter-agency cooperation

39. At its thirty-ninth session, during the consideration of the agenda item entitled "Means and mechanisms for strengthening inter-agency cooperation and increasing the use of space applications and services within and among entities of the United Nations system" in accordance with its three-year work plan, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee benefited from inputs provided by the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities in identifying the barriers to the greater use of space applications and services within the United Nations system and examining means and mechanisms to eliminate those barriers. The Subcommittee also took an initiative to support and complement the efforts made by the Inter-Agency Meeting to increase the awareness of policy makers of the usefulness of space applications in promoting social and economic development on the occasion of the World Summit on Sustainable Development. The Subcommittee recommended that a statement from the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space be delivered at the World Summit to highlight how space applications could contribute to promoting sustainable development. The text of the statement to be presented at the World Summit on behalf of the Committee is contained in its report.[7]

V. Conclusion

40. The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space has established a solid and flexible mechanism to implement recommendations of UNISPACE III. Through the consideration of agenda items that have relevance to the recommendations of UNISPACE III, the Committee and its subsidiary bodies provide overall policy guidelines for implementing the recommendations and play a leading role in carrying out the strategy outlined in the Vienna Declaration. The annual sessions of the Committee and its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee also allow for periodic monitoring and review of the progress made. The role of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies is strengthened by the action teams that conduct their work throughout the year. The action teams help

increase the sense of responsibility among the Member States that lead the teams and the sense of ownership among all countries and organizations that participate. By encouraging the participation of non-governmental entities, the action teams provide an avenue for civil society to make important contributions to the implementation of the recommendations together with Governments. The action teams provide a unique mechanism to strengthen cooperation not only between industrialized and developing countries but also between policy makers and scientific and technical experts, as well as between the space industry and user communities. The implementation of the plan of action of the Office for Outer Space Affairs supports and complements the work of various action teams.

41. In strengthening and repositioning space activities in the United Nations system, the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, the Office for Outer Space Affairs and the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities work together towards the same goal, to bring the benefits of space technology and its applications to the attention of the heads of organizations of the United Nations system.

42. There has been increasing synergy among the efforts made by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, the Office for Outer Space Affairs and the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities towards the goals identified by UNISPACE III. Achieving the goals of UNISPACE III would also make important contributions to achieving some of the goals identified in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[8] such as the eradication of poverty and protection of environment through better management of land, forest, ocean and water resources using satellite-derived information, as well as protection of the vulnerable through effective and efficient mitigation of adverse effects of disasters and coordination of emergency responses and humanitarian assistance using satellite images and data and satellite communications.

43. The review and appraisal by the General Assembly in 2004 of the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III will provide an opportunity to increase the political visibility of and momentum for the efforts made by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subsidiary bodies. Their efforts, if supported by Governments, organizations of the United Nations system and as many non-governmental entities as possible, will have led to turning the possibilities envisaged in the Vienna Declaration into reality and to global recognition of the usefulness of space tools to enhance human development and security. If proven to be successful in 2004, the mechanism used and the strategy followed by the Committee in implementing the recommendations of UNISPACE III could be considered as a model for the follow-up to other conferences held within the United Nations system.

Notes

[1] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.I.3.
[2] Ibid., chap. I, resolution 1.
[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/57/20), annex I.
[4] Ibid., *Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/57/20), para. 71.
[5] Ibid., *Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/55/20), paras. 54 and 56.
[6] A/AC.105/782 and A/AC.105/L.238, 239, 240 and 241.
[7] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/57/20), annex III.
[8] See General Assembly resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000.

Annex I

Summary of the implementation of the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

Recommendation[a]		*Action team*[b] *established*	*Relevant agenda item of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies*	*Other activities*
1	Develop a comprehensive, worldwide environmental monitoring strategy	Yes		Activities relating to monitoring and protection of the environment, a priority theme of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications (hereinafter "the Programme")
2	Improve the management of Earth's natural resources	Yes		Activities relating to management of natural resources, a priority theme of the Programme
3	Develop and implement the Integrated Global Observing Strategy (IGOS)			The Scientific and Technical Subcommittee (STSC), at its 2002 session, noted the activities already being conducted by the IGOS Partnership (IGOS-P) that had direct relevance to the recommendation and agreed that there was no need to establish an action team; the Subcommittee invited IGOS-P to make a presentation on its activities at the 2003 session of the Subcommittee
4	Enhance weather and climate forecasting	Yes		
5	Minimize harmful effects of space activities on the local and global environment			
6	Improve public health services	Yes	Use of space technology for the medical sciences and public health to be considered by the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee (STSC) at its 2003 session	Activities relating to telemedicine, a priority theme of the Programme
7	Implement an integrated, global system to manage natural disaster mitigation, relief and prevention efforts	Yes	Implementation of an integrated, space-based global natural disaster management system considered by STSC under the work plan covering the period 2001-2003	Activities relating to disaster management, a priority theme of the Programme, which launched a training module consisting of regional workshops on the subject
8	Promote literacy and enhance rural education through tele-education			Activities relating to tele-education, one of the priority themes of the Programme
9	Improve knowledge-sharing through the promotion of universal access to space-based communication services			

	Recommendation[a]	*Action team*[b] *established*	*Relevant agenda item of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies*	*Other activities*
10	Improve universal access to and compatibility of space-based navigation and positioning systems	Yes		The Programme has launched a training module consisting of regional workshops on the use and applications of global navigation satellite systems
11	Promote sustainable development by applying results of space research	Yes		One of the main goals of the Inter-Agency Meeting and the Programme
12	Improve scientific knowledge of near and outer space through cooperative activities			The series of UN/ESA Workshops on Basic Space Science
13	Improve the protection of the near-Earth space and outer space environments through mitigation of space debris		Space debris considered by STSC since before UNISPACE III and in accordance with the work plan covering the period 2002-2005	
14	Improve the international coordination of activities related to near-Earth objects	Yes		
15	Protect the near-Earth space and outer space environments through further research on the use of nuclear power sources		Use of nuclear power sources in outer space considered by STSC since before UNISPACE III, also through the Working Group under the item, and in accordance with the work plan covering the period 2000-2003	
16	Minimize interference with bands in the electromagnetic spectrum			Information was provided by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the International Astronomical Union (IAU) at 2001 and 2002 sessions of STSC on their activities concerning the narrower subject of frequency interference with radio astronomy
17	Enhance capacity-building by developing human and budgetary resources	Yes	Mobilization of financial resources to develop capacity in space science and technology applications considered by STSC at its 2002 and 2003 sessions	One of the main objectives of the Programme in carrying out its activities under each priority theme
18	Increase awareness among decision makers and the general public of the importance of space activities	Yes		One of the main objectives of the Programme in carrying out activities under each priority theme
19	Establish/strengthen national mechanisms for the coordination of space activities			
20	Improve the sharing of information on and use of spin-offs from space activities		Spin-off benefits of space technology: review of current status considered by the Committee since before UNISPACE III	

Recommendation[a]		*Action team*[b] *established*	*Relevant agenda item of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies*	*Other activities*
21	Provide education opportunities for youth to learn more about space science and technology and participate in space activities		Government and private activities to promote education in space science and engineering considered by STSC at its 2001 session; space and society considered by the Committee at its 2002 and 2003 sessions	
22	Create within the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space a consultative mechanism to facilitate the participation of youth in cooperative space-related activities			The Space Generation Advisory Council was granted permanent observer status with the Committee by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/51; the Programme has held a series of symposiums on enhancing the participation of youth in space activities, supporting the work of the Space Generation Advisory Council
23	Create awards to recognize outstanding contributions in space activity			
24	Reaffirm the role of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, its subcommittees and its secretariat in the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space			
25	Ensure sustainable funding mechanisms for regional centres affiliated to the United Nations and enhance support for the United Nations Programme on Space Applications			Fund-raising activities by the Office for Outer Space Affairs to support activities of the Programme
26	Encourage the increased use of space-related systems and services by the organizations of the United Nations system and by the private sector		Means and mechanisms for strengthening inter-agency cooperation and increasing the use of space applications and services within and among entities of the United Nations system considered by STSC under the work plan covering the period 2001-2003; in previous years, the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities reported to STSC under this item	
27	Invite States to ratify or accede to, and invite intergovernmental organizations to declare acceptance of, the outer space treaties		Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space considered by the Legal Subcommittee at its annual sessions	

Recommendation[a]		Action team[b] established	Relevant agenda item of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies	Other activities
28	Further consider the agenda structure and working methods of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subcommittees		Agenda items of both of the subcommittees of the Committee, considered under other matters by the Committee	
29	Strengthen the coordination of mutually beneficial activities between the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and other United Nations entities		Means and mechanisms for strengthening inter-agency cooperation and increasing the use of space applications and services within and among entities of the United Nations system considered by STSC under the work plan covering the period 2001-2003, in previous years, the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities reported to STSC under this item	
30	Call upon the international community to consider the recommendations of the regional preparatory conferences for UNISPACE III			
31	Establish a special voluntary United Nations fund for the implementation of UNISPACE III recommendations			Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 54/68, the terms of reference of the Trust Fund for the United Nations Programme on Space Applications have been revised to include the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III
32	Identify new and innovative sources of financing to support the implementation of UNISPACE III recommendations	Yes	Related to mobilization of financial resources to develop capacity in space science and technology applications, considered by STSC at its 2002 and 2003 sessions	The UN/IAF Workshops held since 2001 include a session to address this subject
33	Promote further the peaceful uses of outer space through cooperation between "space-faring" and "non-space faring" as well as among developing countries, and involvement of civil society, including industry			

[a] The recommendations have been numbered in accordance with their order of appearance in the Vienna Declaration.

[b] For more information on the action teams, see annex II.

Annex II

Participation of Member States and organizations in action teams

	Action team[a]	Chair(s)	Countries that are members of the action team (as of 1 July 2002)		Entities of the United Nations system and organizations that are participating in the action team (as of 1 July 2002)	
			Number	Countries	Number	Entities and organizations
1	Environmental Monitoring Strategy	Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Syrian Arab Republic	24	Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, China, France, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, United Kingdom, United States	9	Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations International Drug Control Programme, Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)*, European Space Agency (ESA), International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS), Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC), Manila Observatory
2	Management of Earth's Natural Resources	India	27	Australia, Azerbaijan, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Czech Republic, France, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Mongolia, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, United Kingdom, United States	6	ECE, ESCAP, UNESCO*, SGAC, Manila Observatory, Philippine Astronomical Society (PAS)
4	Weather and Climate Forecasting	Portugal	25	Argentina, Australia, Azerbaijan, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Cuba, Czech Republic, Hungary, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, United States	5	ESCAP, UNESCO*, World Meteorological Organization, Manila Observatory, PAS

	Action team[a]	Chair(s)	Countries that are members of the action team (as of 1 July 2002)		Entities of the United Nations system and organizations that are participating in the action team (as of 1 July 2002)	
			Number	Countries	Number	Entities and organizations
6	Public Health	Canada	23	Argentina, Australia, Azerbaijan, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Cuba, Czech Republic, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Italy, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, United States	5	ESCAP, World Health Organization (WHO)**, SGAC, Manila Observatory, PAS
7	Disaster Management	Canada, China, France	39	Argentina, Australia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States	11	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Secretariat for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, ESCAP, UNESCO, WHO**, ESA, European Association for the International Space Year (EURISY), SGAC, Manila Observatory, PAS
10	Global Navigation Satellite Systems	Italy, United States	31	Australia, Austria, Belarus, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Mongolia, Morocco, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, United States	12	ESCAP, International Telecommunication Union, ESA, European Commission, European Organisation for the Safety of Air Navigation, Civil GPS Service Interface Committee, EURISY, American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, International Association of Institutes of Navigation, International Bureau of Weights and Measures, International Federation of Surveyors, International GPS Service

	Action team[a]	Chair(s)	Countries that are members of the action team (as of 1 July 2002)		Entities of the United Nations system and organizations that are participating in the action team (as of 1 July 2002)	
			Number	Countries	Number	Entities and organizations
11	Sustainable Development	Nigeria	26	Azerbaijan, Belarus, Brazil, Chile, China, Czech Republic, Egypt, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Lebanon, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States	8	ESCAP, UNESCO*, ISPRS, EURISY, National Space Society (NSS), SGAC, Manila Observatory, PAS
14	Near-Earth Objects	United Kingdom	17	Australia, Brazil, China, Czech Republic, Finland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Pakistan, Poland, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, United Kingdom, United States	7	ESA, Committee on Space Research (COSPAR), International Astronomical Union (IAU), NSS, SGAC, The Spaceguard Foundation, European Space Science Committee of the European Science Foundation
17	Capacity-Building	Japan	22	Argentina, Azerbaijan, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Egypt, France, Hungary, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, United States	6	ESCAP, UNESCO, ESA, COSPAR, IAU, Manila Observatory
18	Awareness Increase	Austria, United States	21	Australia, Austria, Brazil, Czech Republic, Egypt, France, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Italy, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arabic Republic, United States	14	ESCAP, UNESCO*, ESA, COSPAR, International Law Association, ISPRS, International Space University, EURISY, NSS, SGAC, Spaceweek International Association, Austrian Space Agency, Manila Observatory, PAS
32	Innovative Sources of Financing	France	14	Algeria, Australia, Colombia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, South Africa, Syrian Arab Republic	6	ESCAP, ESA, NSS, SGAC, Manila Observatory, PAS

[a] The number of the Action Team corresponds to the number assigned to the respective recommendation of UNISPACE III, as indicated in annex I.

* To be communicated through the Office for Outer Space Affairs.

** Only to receive information.

United Nations A/57/214

General Assembly

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Fifty-seventh session
Item 64 of the preliminary list*
Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East

Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East

Report of the Secretary-General**

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* A/57/50/Rev.1.
** The present report includes replies received from Member States up to June 2002.

02-48324 (E) 200802 230802

I. Introduction

1. In paragraph 10 of its resolution 56/21 of 29 November 2001, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to continue to pursue consultations with the States of the region of the Middle East and other concerned States, in accordance with paragraph 7 of resolution 46/30 of 6 December 1991 and taking into account the evolving situation in the region, and to seek from those States their views on the measures outlined in chapters III and IV of the study annexed to his report (A/45/435) or other relevant measures, in order to move towards the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East. In paragraph 11 of the same resolution, the Assembly also requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the resolution. The present report is submitted pursuant to that request.

2. On 15 February 2002, the Secretary-General addressed a note verbale to all Member States drawing attention to paragraph 10 resolution 56/21 and seeking the views of Member States on the matter. Replies were received from Egypt, Guatemala, Fiji, Israel, Lebanon, Qatar and Tunisia. The text of those replies is reproduced in section III below and any additional replies from Member States will be issued in an addendum to the present report.

II. Observations

3. The Secretary-General notes that the issue of establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East remains of considerable importance. It is recalled that at the first session of the preparatory committee for the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, States parties reiterated their support for the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons as well as other weapons of mass destruction, and reaffirmed the importance of the implementation of the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference.

4. The Secretary-General has continued to carry out various consultations with concerned parties within and outside the region in order to explore ways and means of promoting the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East. Regrettably, no further progress has been achieved. Given the current situation in the region, it is essential that efforts continue with a view to creating the necessary conditions for a stable security environment in the region. The Secretary-General reaffirms the continued readiness of the United Nations to provide any assistance deemed helpful in that regard.

III. Replies received from Governments

Egypt

[Original: English]
[5 July 2002]

1. Egypt's commitment to the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East is unquestionable. It was at the request of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Egypt that the item "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East" was first inscribed on the agenda of the General Assembly in 1974. Since that date, the Assembly has annually adopted a resolution, by consensus since 1980, on this matter. Throughout the years, Egypt continued to play a consistently leading role in promoting the objective of ridding the Middle East of the threat of nuclear weapons.

2. As a State Party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and a signatory to the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty, Egypt has clearly and unambiguously demonstrated its rejection of the nuclear option, which represents a major threat to peace, security and stability in the Middle East. Today, Egypt notes that all States of the Middle East have become parties to the Treaty, with the exception of Israel, which regrettably persists in ignoring repeated calls to join the Treaty and to place all its nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) full-scope safeguards, thereby perpetuating a dangerous imbalance in the region.

3. The importance given during the 2000 Review Conference to the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East is yet another testimony to the commitment of the international community to the establishment of such a zone in the region. The 2000 Review Conference — further to the 1995 resolution on the Middle East — adopted

unanimously in its final document a reaffirmation of the importance of Israel's accession to the Treaty and the placement of all its nuclear facilities under comprehensive IAEA safeguards (see NPT/Conf.2000/28, para. 16/3), which reads as follows:

> "The Conference recalls that in paragraph 4 of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East the Conference 'calls upon all States in the Middle East that have not yet done so without exception, to accede to the Treaty as soon as possible and to place their nuclear facilities under full-scope IAEA safeguards'. The Conference notes, in this connection, that the report of the United Nations Secretariat on the implementation of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East (NPT/Conf.2000/7) states that several States have acceded to the Treaty and that, with these accessions, all States of the region of the Middle East, with the exception of Israel, are States Party to the NPT. The Conference welcomes the accession of these States and reaffirms the importance of Israel's accession to the NPT and the placement of all its nuclear facilities under the comprehensive IAEA safeguards, in realizing the goal of the Universal adherence to the Treaty in the Middle East."

4. Egypt is cognizant of the fact that the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East is a difficult task. Indeed, each region of the world has its own characteristics, and each zone must be tailored to suit those characteristics. However, Egypt does not share the view that full-scale peace and fully developed political and economic relations between all States of the region are a prerequisite for the commencement of negotiations on the establishment of a zone. If such an argument was correct, it is unlikely that the Treaty of Tlatelolco or even the Treaty of Pelindaba would ever have been negotiated. Regrettably, conflicts continue to rage in various parts of Africa to this very day, yet such conflicts were not invoked as reasons to prevent negotiations on an African nuclear-weapon-free zone. To Egypt, experience has shown that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in areas of tension and conflict does indeed contribute to easing tensions, preventing conflicts and developing peaceful relations and mutual cooperation.

5. For a nuclear-weapon-free zone to come about in any area of the world, there must inevitably exist a regional commitment to this objective. Such a commitment is unquestionably present in the Middle East, as is testified to by the annual adoption of a consensus resolution of the General Assembly on the matter and by the adoption of consensus guidelines by the Disarmament Commission at its 1999 substantive session on the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned. In this connection, Egypt notes with satisfaction that there is agreement that the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East as well as the development of a zone free from weapons and all weapons of mass destruction should be encouraged. Egypt considers that it is imperative that those commitments be turned into concrete actions if it is to have a determining and positive impact on the Middle East peace process.

6. Making negotiations on a Middle East nuclear-weapon-free zone contingent upon an ever-growing list of prerequisites is a sure recipe for failure. In Egypt's view, the only prerequisite for negotiations to commence on the establishment of a zone in the Middle East is that States in the region have the political will to sit together and commence negotiations. Viewing the Middle East nuclear-weapon-free zone as no more than an act that "sets the seal on a durable peace" is not a vision that is shared by Egypt. A Middle East nuclear-weapon-free zone is in and of itself an important confidence-building measure and an act of political reconciliation. Furthermore, maintaining that fully-fledged relations of peace must exist before talks on such a zone can commence, while at the same time persisting to maintain a nuclear option, are clearly two mutually exclusive and contradictory arguments. In a region as volatile as the Middle East, no solid and durable peace can be achieved while a nuclear threat continues to loom over the region.

7. Egypt will continue to pursue the objective of establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East at the earliest time and will, in this context, continue to seek the support of regional and extraregional States. Furthermore, Egypt will continue its endeavours in realizing the objectives of establishing such a zone based on the outcome of the 2000 Review Conference. It will also pursue its April 1990 initiative for the establishment, in the Middle East, of a zone free from all weapons of mass

destruction. In its endeavours, it will continue to seek the support of the international community and of all those who are committed to ridding the world, both at the regional and global levels, of the threat of nuclear weapons.

Guatemala

[Original: Spanish]
[12 April 2002]

Guatemala considers General Assembly resolutions 56/24 B, 56/248 and 56/21 to be of global benefit and importance in the search for peace and security in a world free of the scourge of war, avoiding the danger of a nuclear war, in the hope that the nuclear-weapon States will agree to place their nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards. To that end, the issue of a reasonable balance of forces will have to be addressed so that all States in the world can place acceptable limits on their offensive capacities.

Fiji

[Original: English]
[17 April 2002]

The Republic of Fiji Island endorses the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East. The former also supports the request that a report on the implementation of the present resolution be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

Israel

[Original: English]
[30 May 2002]

1. Israel has always maintained that, in the Middle East, nuclear issues as well as all regional security issues, both conventional and non-conventional, should be dealt with in the full context of the peace process. It is in this framework that Israel supports the eventual establishment of the Middle East as a mutually verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone that would also be free of chemical and biological weapons as well as ballistic missiles.

2. General Assembly resolution 56/21, entitled "The establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East", does not adequately reflect Israel's position vis-à-vis the nuclear issue in the Middle East. In fact, Israel has substantive and significant reservations regarding certain elements of the resolution.

3. Notwithstanding those reservations, for over 20 years Israel has joined the consensus and has made extensive efforts to preserve the language and prevent unilateral changes. Israel has acted this way out of its belief that instead of highlighting different positions, there is a fundamental need for building confidence and creating a common vision for all the States in the Middle East.

4. The promotion of this vision must take into account the particular circumstances of the Middle East. Countries in the region continue to acquire and develop weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery, deny Israel's right to exist and pursue aggressively hostile practices towards Israel. Moreover, in this region membership in global conventions does not necessarily provide adequate assurances in view of the record of non-compliance with international obligations by certain States, the case of Iraq being an obvious example. This environment of growing threats has a critical impact on the region's ability to move towards the establishment of a zone free of all weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missiles.

5. Accordingly, there is an urgent need to intensify efforts to halt the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missiles to countries of concern in the Middle East. Those countries are not only engaged in extensive proliferation activities but are also involved in supporting terrorism. A range of international, regional and national efforts to promote a variety of measures, including more stringent controls on sensitive exports to those countries, are an urgent necessity.

6. This disturbing reality in the Middle East mandates a practical step-by-step approach, bearing in mind the ultimate goal of achieving a comprehensive peace between all the States in the region. This process, as has been demonstrated by the experience of other regions, such as Latin America, is inherently an incremental one. It can only realistically begin with modest arrangements for confidence-building measures in order to build the necessary trust for more ambitious cooperative security undertakings.

7. Effective arms control measures can only be achieved and sustained in a region in which wars, armed conflicts, terror, political hostility and incitement are not features of everyday life.

8. In recent years, Israel has sought to lay the enduring foundations of peace in our region, based on an historic reconciliation embodying the notions of compromise, mutual trust and respect, open borders and good neighbourliness. The basis for coexistence between Israel and its neighbours was laid in the bilateral peace treaties with Egypt and Jordan, and we still hope to widen that process to encompass the Palestinians, Lebanon and Syria.

9. In addition, after the Madrid conference of 1991, Israel made a substantial effort to contribute to the success of the arms control and regional security talks in the framework of the multilateral negotiations of the peace process. The arms control and regional security talks were the appropriate forum to promote confidence and address regional security issues and challenges. Those talks were unfortunately discontinued by another State in the region instead of becoming an important channel for regional dialogue.

10. Notwithstanding this lack of progress at the regional level, Israel has attempted during the last decade to become more involved in the normative framework of international arms control efforts that do not impair our vital margins of security. Those efforts constitute an important component in the overall effort to improve the regional security climate. It was in that spirit that Israel signed the Chemical Weapons Convention in 1993 and the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty in 1996, and ratified the Conventional Weapons Convention in 1995.

11. Israel adhered to the provisions of the Missile Technology Control Regime, respects the other supplier regimes, and participates in the United Nations register on conventional arms. Over the last year, Israel has constructively engaged in efforts in the United Nations and in other international forums to prevent the proliferation of ballistic missiles and their related technology. We also attach importance to United Nations deliberations on the illicit trafficking of small arms, and hope that the implementation of the programme of action will contribute to the global fight against terror.

12. As the international community has recognized, the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone should be based on arrangements freely arrived at among all the States of the region concerned. Such a zone can only be established through direct negotiations after States recognize each other and have established full peaceful and diplomatic relations. It cannot be established other than by the parties themselves, nor can it be established in a situation in which some of the States maintain an active state of war with Israel, refuse in principle to maintain peaceful relations with Israel or even recognize its right to exist.

13. We believe that one-sided and unbalanced resolutions, aimed at isolating and alienating Israel, such as the resolution on the risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East, do not contribute to the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone. Moreover, they undermine the confidence and the climate of cooperation that are essential for achieving that end, while ignoring the complex reality of the region.

14. Countries, particularly in the Middle East, should realize that such resolutions cannot be a substitute for the need to conduct direct negotiations, build confidence, reduce threats and establish stable peaceful relations in the region, all of which are essential milestones along the path to a nuclear-weapon-free zone.

15. Over the years, Israel has consistently pursued the policy described above. We regard that policy to be as valid today as it has been over the last decades. It provides sound guidance for regional security, based on the foundations of stability and peace.

Lebanon

[Original: English]
[11 April 2002]

Lebanon abides by all resolutions adopted by the United Nations aimed at the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East.

Qatar

[Original: Arabic]
[29 April 2002]

Qatar considers that in view of its commitment to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and to international conventions in general, to

rid the region of the Middle East of weapons of mass destruction, especially nuclear weapons, would be a major step and a great contribution to the establishment of peace, security and stability in the region. We affirm that such an initiative should be binding on all States without exception.

Tunisia

[Original: Arabic]
[24 June 2002]

1. In the resolution in question, the General Assembly invites the countries of the region to declare to the Security Council their support for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone and to consider the means that may contribute to complete disarmament and to the establishment of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the region of the Middle East. It requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to continue to pursue consultations with the States of the region and to seek from those States their views on the measures outlined in the study annexed to his report of 10 October 1990.

2. It should be said that Tunisia ratified the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons by its Law No. 5 of 1970. The members of the League of Arab States are also in the course of elaborating a draft treaty to make the Middle East a zone free of weapons of mass destruction, primarily nuclear weapons. All the countries of the Middle East except for Israel have ratified the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the "Middle East" in this context meaning the members of the League of Arab States, in addition to Iran and Israel.

3. Accordingly, all the States concerned must accede to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and agree to place all their nuclear facilities under the comprehensive International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards. In any event, doing so must not in any way present an obstacle to the acquisition of nuclear know-how and expertise for civilian purposes and the Treaty must be applied by all parties without discrimination.

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Item 64 of the provisional agenda*
Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East

Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum**

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* A/57/150.
** This reply was received after the submission of the main report.

02-50382 (E) 260802

Replies received from Governments

Denmark*

[Original: English]
[11 July 2002]

At the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, the Member States of the European Union aligned themselves with the consensus on General Assembly resolution 56/21 entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East".

The Member States of the European Union hereby wish to provide the following common reply to paragraph 10 of the resolution, in which the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to continue to pursue consultations with the States of the region and other concerned States, in accordance with paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 46/30 of 6 December 1991 and taking into account the evolving situation in the region, and to seek from those States their views on the measures outlined in chapters III and IV of the study annexed to his report[1] or other relevant measures, in order to move towards the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey and the European Free Trade Association countries Norway and Liechtenstein align themselves with the common reply of the Member States of the European Union on General Assembly resolution 56/21.

1. The European Union recalls the principles and guidelines on the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones adopted by the United Nations Disarmament Commission at its 1999 session,[2] stipulating that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones should be based on arrangements freely arrived at by the States of the region.

2. The European Union also takes note of Security Council resolution 687 (1991), recalling the goal of establishing in the Middle East a zone free from weapons of mass destruction and all missiles for their delivery.

3. The European Union further recalls the conclusion of the report of the Secretary-General of 10 October 1990,[1] that the nuclear threat can be effectively and permanently eliminated only as a pattern of sound regional security relationships is developed.

4. The European Union recognizes the importance of confidence-building measures, such as nuclear-weapon-free zones, as an integral part of a comprehensive regional security arrangement, based on peaceful and friendly relations between all States in the Middle East. The European Union further stresses that the creation of a secure and stable environment for all States, which would facilitate the establishment of a zone free from weapons of mass destruction, is first and foremost the responsibility of the States in the Middle East.

5. The European Union has repeatedly called upon all States to adhere to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and recalls the decisions and

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union.

the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference. The European Union equally attaches great importance to universal adherence to the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty; the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction; the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction and to agreements between States and the International Atomic Energy Agency for the application of safeguards with additional protocols, and considers these treaties and agreements to be in the best interest of all States, as they constitute important steps to promoting the non-proliferation and disarmament of weapons of mass destruction, thereby contributing to international and regional confidence, stability and peace.

6. The European Union further recalls that the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Non-Proliferation Treaty reaffirmed its endorsement of the aims and objectives of the Middle East peace process and recognized that efforts in that regard, as well as other efforts, contribute to, inter alia, a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons as well as other weapons of mass destruction. The present situation only confirms the importance of non-proliferation efforts in that region.

7. The European Union urges the States of the region to devote themselves to efforts to develop peaceful and friendly relations, with a view to creating a secure and stable environment for all States in the region, thereby rendering possible the establishment of a zone free from all weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery in the Middle East.

Notes

[1] A/45/435.

[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/54/42), annex I, sect. C.

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General Assembly

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Fifty-seventh session
Item 30 of the preliminary list*

The role of the United Nations in promoting a new global human order

Report of the Secretary-General**

Summary

The present report responds to General Assembly resolution 55/48 in which the Secretary-General is requested to seek the views of Member States and of the agencies and organizations of the United Nations system on the promotion of a new global human order and to prepare a report thereon to the Assembly at its fifty-seventh session. The report provides a summary of views as requested in the resolution. It concludes with the observation that the concept of a new global human order requires further clarification as to its boundaries and content.

* A/57/50/Rev.1.

** The submission of this report was delayed in order to incorporate the results of consultations within the Organization.

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I. Introduction

1. In its resolution 55/48 of 29 November 2000, the General Assembly stressed the need for a broad-based consensus for action within a comprehensive framework towards the achievement of the goals of development and poverty eradication involving all actors, namely Governments, the United Nations system and other international organizations, and relevant actors of civil society, including the private sector and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). In this context, the Assembly noted with interest the proposal regarding a new global human order and requested the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States and of the agencies and organizations of the United Nations system on the promotion of a new global human order and to prepare a report thereon for consideration by the Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

2. In compliance with that request, the Secretary-General sought the views of Member States through a note verbale. The agencies and organizations of the United Nations system were also invited to convey their views on the issue. At the time of the submission of the present report, the Secretary-General had received replies from two Member States, Guyana and the Philippines, and 10 United Nations entities — the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the International Labour Office, the United Nations Development Group Office, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention, the United Nations Fund for International Partnerships, the World Health Organization, and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

II. Views and information received

A. Member States

Guyana

3. In its response, Guyana points out that the purpose of the proposal for a new global human order is to prompt a re-examination of international cooperation and partnership and explore the prospects of a viable consensus on people-centred development as a central pillar of the work of the United Nations in development in the twenty-first century. The United Nations Millennium Declaration advocates the need for comprehensive reforms across a wide range of areas and should be implemented in a coordinated manner, with human development as the motivating force for global stability, security and prosperity. This approach is also urgently required to facilitate action on a wide range of issues agreed at the global conferences which established the centrality of people-centred development. However, the review processes that have taken place point to a certain degree of disappointment over the lack of progress in acting on those issues.

4. Guyana also notes that multilateral cooperation continues to undergo changes with new challenges for development, peace and security. The hope for peace, stability and universal prosperity remains a powerful driving force for progress and the International Conference on Financing for Development has given a fresh impetus to international development cooperation, particularly on the question of resources. These efforts are complemented by the attempts of the leading financial and trade institutions to redefine the parameters of development assistance. The functioning of the international machinery in support of development also needs to be examined with a view to promoting greater coherence and coordination. The Millennium Declaration also indicates that democracy, fundamental freedoms and access to basic services are as essential to reducing poverty and promoting human development as economic growth. The tragic events of 11 September and the international community's response against terrorism demonstrate the importance of multilateral cooperation in pursuing a common cause and the need for balance in the political, security, social and economic dimensions of justice. Such a holistic approach will strengthen confidence and resolve to establish the appropriate governance mechanisms to address the different dimensions of justice and build a just world order.

5. Guyana recalls that the proposal for a new global human order was first made at the World Summit for Social Development in 1995 and that it had been supported at a number of international forums, including the Caribbean Community, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and, most recently, by the Group of 77 and China. The Declaration of the South Summit, held in Havana in April 2000, stressed the need for a new global human order aimed at reversing

the growing disparities between rich and poor, both among and within countries, through the promotion of growth with equity, the eradication of poverty, the expansion of productive employment and the promotion of gender equality and social integration. The rationale for this proposal is that the deepening interdependence and the consolidation of democracy in many countries has accelerated technological innovation. The growing inequities and disparities that have accompanied globalization, manifested by the increasing income and technological divide between developed and developing countries, strongly militate against economic and social progress for the majority of humanity.

6. Furthermore, Guyana stresses that the proposal for a new global human order seeks to build a strong political consensus and a broad-based global partnership to combat poverty and promote peace, security and economic prosperity throughout the world. This could be based on a long-term integrated approach to development that takes full account of how governments, markets and societies interact and provides for the achievement of concrete development results. Political will and international partnership are essential to address the challenges of global poverty and inequity and the promotion of human development successfully. Such a partnership needs to involve all relevant actors, Member States, the international community and NGOs, and could address the linkages between issues of vital importance to the developing world and concerns in the developed countries and promote solutions to common problems. The partnership should endeavour to build on the work done by the United Nations in the development area, including major conferences and various development initiatives. To this end, the proposal envisages the coordination by the international community of efforts towards action that is people-centred and is aimed at promoting the social and economic welfare of people. It will further increase awareness about the need to focus not only on the financial and economic factors but also on moral and social imperatives that place people's livelihood at the centre of development.

7. In addition, Guyana notes that the proposal envisages a number of concrete initiatives aimed at addressing critical issues of human development, while recognizing that investment, technical and economic assistance remain principal instruments to support the development needs of developing countries. In particular, the proposal seeks to advance further action on three major fronts:

(a) Facilitate reshaping the role of government in building the democratic instruments for human development. This will promote strengthening of the capabilities to provide the services and infrastructure necessary to forge synergies between economic growth, poverty reduction and social development;

(b) Mobilize enhanced political support for development. The process of development assistance must be consistent with the demanding requirements of poverty reduction strategies. It is also important that official debt relief be adequately financed though not at the expense of resources for development assistance. Furthermore, while the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative is an important step to assist developing countries in reducing poverty, greater effort is required to allow countries to qualify for debt relief on the grounds of the incidence of poverty;

(c) Facilitate a genuine consensus on the promotion of social justice, ownership and good governance at the national and international levels. To this end, consideration should be given to the establishment of an international debt work-out mechanism which would balance the interests of donors, international financial institutions, transnational corporations and developing countries, with a view to introducing greater discipline in international cooperation.

8. Finally, Guyana highlights that the United Nations remains the premier institution for forging global consensus on issues of global concern. In an increasingly interdependent world and in keeping with the mandate of its Charter, the United Nations should play a pivotal role in promoting higher standards of living in greater freedom for the benefit of all of the world's peoples.

Philippines

9. The Philippines, in its response, supports the proposal on the promotion of a new global human order, which is aimed at reversing the growing disparities between rich and poor countries through promotion of growth with equity, the eradication of poverty, the expansion of productive employment and the promotion of gender equality and social integration. Technology transfer and capacity-building for developing countries are essential in helping these

countries in their fight against poverty. There is a need to adopt a new and innovative framework for development which takes into account existing experiences and recognizes new and more productive development approaches. Follow-up to the Monterrey process is important and should be placed on the priority agenda of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council. The Philippines emphasizes that further information on the concept of a new global human order is required.

B. Agencies and organizations of the United Nations system

International Fund for Agricultural Development

10. The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) views the proposal for the establishment of a new global human order as a timely initiative which underlines the fundamental commitment that the welfare of individual human beings is at the core of societal welfare, and addresses the issue of social and economic development, equity and poverty, which are absent in many ways in the drive towards globalization and the new world order. IFAD believes that the proposal can be strengthened by emphasizing gender inequities and the need for gender mainstreaming within the framework of a rights-based approach — the right of human beings to have access to productive resources such as, inter alia, land and water and the right to have access to and to choose technologies which promote pro-poor growth, particularly in the least favourable regions. It also believes that the focus should be on indigenous people, including women, from the perspectives of both equitable global human order as well as of providers of environmental services and stewards of biodiversity.

International Labour Office

11. The International Labour Office takes up approaches to globalization relevant to a new global human order. It notes that the present form of globalization has not produced enough jobs and, currently, more than a billion women and men are unemployed, underemployed or working poor. Five hundred million new jobs are needed almost entirely in the developing world over the next decade to absorb new entrants to the labour market, largely youth and women. The Office stresses that decent work itself is a vision that links shared values to practical policies to improve people's lives. It provides a development framework for choice and setting priorities on how to respond to changes in the global economy and the world of work. It can become an integrating goal for a new type of globalization. The Office proposes five areas which could be explored to bridge the decent work deficit:

(a) More concentration is needed on local development, local markets and entrepreneurship, basic networks of organizations and social protection, and local capacity to cope;

(b) The creativity and productive potential of women and men trapped in the informal economy must be released. A new approach to governance and the way public institutions interact with workers and small private businesses is central to any effective strategy for moving the disadvantaged through and out of the continuum of informality;

(c) Avenues for basic economic and social security for all people and their families must be sought. The aim of extending social protection to the billions of people in the informal economies of the developing world will require creative thought about how income and other forms of support to the poorest should create a pathway towards decent work;

(d) Policy coherence in the goals of the system of international organizations should be distinguished from policy uniformity. It is vital to promote policy pluralism about the means used for achieving those goals. A broad consensual framework is needed to allow for a reasoned debate and democratic choice about the balance and pace of policy reform and the best options for poverty reduction and employment creation;

(e) The Monterrey Conference made valuable advances in articulating both national policies and contributions towards an international enabling environment conducive to achieving the millennium development goals. However, further initiatives are essential to generate the additional financial resources required, including strengthening national tax policy and administration, improving tax cooperation between countries, and conditions for attracting foreign direct investment may need to be reviewed and improved.

United Nations Development Group Office

12. The United Nations Development Group Office stresses that protracted conflicts, complex emergencies

and natural disasters have a negative impact on development, deepen poverty levels and destroy social capital, thereby reducing the coping mechanisms of the poor. The majority of the countries affected by conflict and complex emergencies have the highest level of human poverty.

13. The United Nations Development Programme seeks to address the root causes of protracted conflict, including exclusion, inequality and poverty, by undertaking conflict assessments and conflict-sensitive recovery programmes and hence conforming to the vision of a global human order.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

14. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) welcomes the proposal on a new global human order and the development of a framework in support of the efforts to achieve the millennium development goals. There are two general areas relating to FAO programmes. The first area is the importance of an open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminating multilateral trading system. FAO has been actively pursuing this objective in collaboration with its Member States, relevant multilateral organizations and civil society. The achievement of such an objective should contribute directly to the global environment needed to address the problems of hunger and poverty and promote human development. The second area relates to the need for improved productivity and assistance to developing countries in strengthening economic and sustainable development. As agriculture represents a major sector in most developing countries, the work on improving agricultural commodity productivity and trade has an important role to play in a new global human order. This requires a multidisciplinary approach which takes into account evolving technologies and market conditions that are pursued in close collaboration with the public and private sectors. It would contribute to reducing the growing disparity between rich and poor countries.

United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)

15. The United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) believes the proposal should be based on renewed hope, solidarity and dignity between individuals and countries and should address structural factors and systemic issues in order to eliminate social and economic disparities, based on equality and social fairness. To achieve this, there is a need for political will, financial resources, social and institutional commitment and a strategy based on a real enforceable mandate. However, the concept of a global human order is too abstract and elusive and should be translated into something tangible, such as the fight against poverty. Furthermore, the configuration of a new global human order requires a physical space of intervention and should be initiated first at the neighbourhood level, then at the district, zone, town, city and country levels. Habitat outlines some specific proposals for the reduction of poverty as a precondition for the establishment of a new global human order. These include advocating for action at the city and community levels, developing activities and methodological tools to integrate the poor in the development process fully, promoting ownership, commitment and participation both at the local and central levels, promoting more integrated approaches to sustainable development and poverty reduction and reducing poverty by seeking to establish time frames and benchmarks. It notes that the resources, including capital, technology and human skills, that are required to launch a global war on poverty and underdevelopment exist in abundance but are poorly allocated. Therefore, any policy to alleviate poverty may have to commence with agreement on all sides, rich and poor, included and excluded, of the necessity for change.

United Nations Industrial Development Organization

16. The United Nations Industrial Development Organization indicates that one of the vehicles to reach the goals of sustainable development is through industrial development, which drives the process of economic growth and global integration, transfer of technology and knowledge and contributes to alleviating poverty and to growth with equity by raising productivity, creating employment and increasing the assets of the poor.

United Nations Office of Drug Control and Crime Prevention

17. In the view of the United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention, a new global human order requires a strong rule of law that would ensure transparency and accountability of leadership and

safety for citizens and institutions. A fair, effective and transparent criminal justice system that ensures that crime and terrorism are better prevented, controlled and punished would contribute to economic prosperity and social integration. Such international instruments as the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its three Protocols contribute to strengthening the rule of law at the global level and enhancing international cooperation against transnational organized crime. The speedy entry into force of these instruments is important in this regard.

United Nations Fund for International Partnerships

World Health Organization

18. The United Nations Fund for International Partnerships supports the objective of a new global human order and notes that its activities are in line with the goals and objectives of the Declaration of the South Summit. The World Health Organization points out that its ongoing work directly contributes to the achievement of the goals of development and poverty eradication in the broad-based consensus for action as proposed within the new global human order.

C. Department of Economic and Social Affairs

19. Many of the ideas encapsulated in the new global human order are also present in the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted at the World Summit for Social Development, which established a consensus to place people at the centre of sustainable development and pledged to eradicate poverty, promote productive employment and foster social integration to achieve just societies for all. As a follow-up to this process, the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly set the framework for concerted action to promote equitable social development and provided a blueprint for activities to be undertaken by all actors. The move to a broader approach to development as an integrative process is further reflected in the development goals of the Millennium Declaration. The achievement of the millennium development goals requires an integrated policy response. The effective integration of social and economic policy is no longer viewed as an option but as a necessity for achieving sustainable development. Social policy and social objectives are not mere appendages to economic policy. On the contrary, they create an enabling environment for growth and are ends unto themselves. Experience in development in the past two decades, in structural adjustment and transition in particular, has convincingly demonstrated not only the detrimental impact of neglecting social development on political and social stability, but also the mutual reinforcement between social objectives and economic growth.

20. The World Summit for Social Development also introduced into international policy discourse the notion of social integration, which is one of the elements of the new global human order. Social integration is aimed to create "a society for all", in which every individual has an active role to play. The goal of social integration cuts across sectoral policies and calls for respect for human rights and social justice, tolerance and non-violence, respect for cultural and religious diversity, elimination of all forms of discrimination, assurance of equal opportunities and meeting the needs of the disadvantaged and vulnerable. Greater democratization and participation in governance, strengthening of civil society and active engagement of women and other marginalized groups contribute to more inclusive societies. Furthermore, a holistic approach that is lifelong and society-wide is needed, based on the concept of "a society for all ages". This concept was adopted as the theme for the International Year of Older Persons in 1999 and subsequently became a central tenet of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing 2002, adopted at the Second World Assembly on Ageing. The Plan underscores the importance of creating an inclusive society for all ages in which older persons participate fully and without discrimination and on the basis of equality.

21. Any discussion of a new global human order will also need to take place within the context of the striking changes in population size, distribution and characteristics that will be occurring during the next 50 years. World population will be increasing by about 3 billion persons during the next half century. All of this change will be occurring in the developing countries, as the population of the more developed countries is expected to change little. At the same time, the world will continue to urbanize rapidly — half the world population is expected to live in urban areas by 2007 and 60 per cent will do so by 2030. Fertility is falling nearly everywhere and is below replacement level in about half the world population, with implications for

family and society. Although mortality is also generally falling, the HIV/AIDS epidemic will remain for many years to come and is devastating in many sub-Saharan African and other countries, particularly in the developing countries. The number of international migrants in the world rose from 75 million in 1965 to 140 million in 2000 and, in a globalizing world, will continue to rise. In fact, 45 per cent of the overall population growth of the more developed countries is due to international migrants.

III. Conclusions

22. **Despite a relatively meagre response rate, a few observations can be drawn from the replies received. It would appear from the responses that a new global human order requires a holistic approach, which means combating poverty and promoting peace, security and economic prosperity. Central to the new global human order is reversing the growing disparities between rich and poor countries with a focus on human development. This entails growth with equity, the eradication of poverty, the expansion of productive employment, promotion of gender equality and social integration. This in turn requires a long-term approach that is people-centred and aimed at promoting the social and economic welfare of people. This means a focus not only on financial and economic factors but also on moral and social imperatives. From the foregoing it seems that, in many ways, the concept of a new global human order echoes the Millennium Declaration. Its value added will much depend on giving greater precision to its constituent parts. The emphasis on human development and closing the gap between rich and poor among and within countries would appear the most promising aspect of this concept. Still, with such a broad concept on what a new global human order entails, it is not surprising that the responses by the United Nations entities are wide-ranging. Overcoming gender inequalities; access to productive resources and technologies; the importance of innovative technologies, especially information technology; focus on indigenous people; job creation and the imperative of decent work; dealing with conflicts, complex emergencies and natural disasters, which include issues such as war-affected refugees, reintegration of ex-combatants and droughts and earthquakes; a well-functioning multilateral trading system; industrial development and policies; a strong rule of law, taking into account changes in population size, distribution and characteristics; fighting the HIV/AIDS epidemic; integration of social and economic policy; social integration; "a society for all ages", social security and social protection; policy coherence; additional financial resources; tax policies and tax cooperation; improving agricultural commodity productivity; anti-hunger programmes; attracting foreign direct investment; development efforts in African countries; and actions at the city and community levels as well as local development are all seen as contributing towards a new global human order. In addition, for many respondents, the new global human order is equated with poverty eradication or a global war on poverty.**

23. **From the foregoing, it becomes clear that the concept of a new global human order is still quite diffused and means different things to different people. Making the concept more operational requires further information on what a new global human order entails and encompasses. At this stage, the concept is viewed by some as too abstract and too elusive and therefore needs to be translated into something tangible, such as the fight against poverty. However, equating the new global human order with poverty eradication would reduce the former to something considerably less than what its sponsors believe it to be. Poverty eradication is seen as an aspect of the new global human order, not its substitute.**

24. **If any recommendation can be drawn from the foregoing, it would be that those who advocate this concept should clarify both its boundaries and its content. Without such clarification, the risk exists that a new global human order will become merely a slogan.**

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Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: implementation of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade

Challenges and progress in implementing the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries and the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade**

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report provides an overview of the challenges and constraints to achieving the major development goals and objectives adopted by the United Nations during the 1990s, including the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, and an update of the progress made towards achievement of the goals during the Decade.

The economic and social development of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, during the 1990s (and, to the same extent, in the new millennium) face several challenges and threats — some have been in existence for many years and others are new. While the economic performance of developing countries as a whole improved in the 1990s compared to that in the 1980s, long-existing challenges — mass poverty, armed conflict, low commodity prices and

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** The report was submitted late to the conference services because it required data for the year 2000, some of which were not available until mid-2002.

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insufficient financial flows — and new challenges — the rapid spread of HIV/AIDS and globalized but more volatile economic activities — constrained most low-income developing countries from achieving the major development goals.

The United Nations Millennium Declaration and major United Nations conferences, including the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, the International Conference on Financing for Development and the forthcoming World Summit on Sustainable Development, set goals and objectives that require action by the international community as a whole, individual countries and other stakeholders.

I. Introduction

1. On 1 May 1990, the General Assembly adopted the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries (resolution S-18/3, annex). On 21 December of the same year, the Assembly adopted the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade (resolution 45/199, annex). The Strategy incorporates several principles contained in the Declaration and emphasizes the need for an acceleration of growth in all sectors in developing countries. It calls on Member States to take the necessary steps to rectify the uneven and disappointing growth performances of the 1980s, address the challenges of the 1990s with a view to boosting the world economy, and accelerate development, thus transforming the 1990s into a productive decade. It also recognizes that such actions should take into account the responsibility of each country for its own development and should be in accordance with its capacity and its impact on the international economy (para. 10).

2. Reports on the progress made in implementing the Declaration and the Strategy were submitted to the General Assembly in 1992, 1994, 1996, 1998 and 2000 (A/47/397, A/47/270-E/1990/74, A/49/328, A/51/270, A/53/301 and A/55/209).

3. The General Assembly, in resolution 56/191 of 21 December 2001, requested the Secretary-General to provide it at its fifty-seventh session with an overview of the challenges and constraints as well as the progress made towards achieving the major development goals and objectives adopted by the United Nations during the past decade. The present report has been prepared in response to that request.

II. Development goals and objectives adopted by the United Nations during the 1990s

4. The central aim of the Strategy and the Declaration was to ensure that the 1990s would be a decade of accelerated development in the developing countries, including improvement in the human condition and strengthened international cooperation. The Strategy identifies six interrelated goals that include, inter alia, a surge in the pace of economic growth in developing countries, a significant reduction in extreme poverty, an improvement in the international trade and financial systems, a strengthening of international development cooperation and overcoming the problems of the least developed countries.

5. During the 1990s, several international conferences on development issues were held under the auspices of the United Nations, with the central focus on eradicating poverty.[1] The Millennium Summit in September 2000 adopted the United Nations Millennium Declaration (General Assembly resolution 55/2), of which the main development goals and objectives are built upon those adopted at the United Nations conferences of the 1990s.[2]

6. The present report provides an overview of the challenges and constraints to achieving these goals during the 1990s, as well as an update of the progress made, wherever new information became available to the Secretariat after the previous report on the same subject was submitted to the General Assembly.[3]

III. Overview of challenges and constraints to achieving the goals and objectives during the 1990s

7. The economic and social development of developing countries as a whole during the 1990s was tinted with a mixture of some successes and several challenges. The world economy witnessed some positive trends during the 1990s: better overall performance in relation to the 1980s; an increase in food production; some improvements in social indicators in many developing countries; and the rapid expansion of information and communication technologies. Several challenges and threats, however, constrained the economic and social development of many low-income countries, in particular the least developed countries.

8. While some challenges, such as mass poverty, armed conflict, declining commodity prices and insufficient financial inflows to these countries persist, the 1990s also witnessed new challenges, most notably a surge in armed conflict in developing countries and the fact that HIV/AIDS spread more rapidly than anticipated at the beginning of the 1990s. The disease is now a serious threat to the development of many sub-Saharan African countries. While the globalization process gained momentum during the decade, supporting the premises of the Declaration and the Strategy that a global approach is required in order to achieve sustained world economic growth and revitalization of development, the world economy experienced several financial crises which adversely affected the growth of many developing countries.

9. Globalization, in particular vibrant trade and financial flows that were facilitated by liberalization measures, stimulated growth in some developing countries, while countries that lack human resources and have weak productive and financial bases — that is, the least developed countries and some other low-income developing countries — were further marginalized. For example, the rapid development of information and communication technologies during the 1990s created great opportunities for profit-making and knowledge expansion for those that had access to these technologies, but the same technology did not benefit countries that had no adequate infrastructure, creating the situation now known as the digital divide, as educational and other preconditions for effective participation remained weak.[4] Many African countries are at risk of being excluded from the revolution in information and communications (E/2001/83, para. 34).

10. The international community made some progress in addressing development concerns during the 1990s. The Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations resulted in some improvements in market access for goods and services from developing countries and the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) initiative was introduced to reduce the debt burden of the world's poorest countries to some extent, in particular with the introduction of the enhanced HIPC initiative in 1999, as examined in paragraph 29 below. However, access to developed countries' markets and heavy external debts continue to be major constraints to the development of many developing countries (market access restricted by, inter alia, tariff peaks and escalation, the conversion of non-tariff barriers to ordinary tariffs and the introduction of non-tariff barriers, such as product coverage, product safety and rules of origin).

11. The international community continues to take some initiatives to facilitate the integration of these disadvantaged countries into the world economy in the new millennium. To liberalize further imports from the least developed countries, the European Union, the largest destination for their exports, adopted the "everything but arms" initiative in 2001, extending free access to agricultural products with the elimination of existing tariffs and quotas, with the exception of bananas, rice and sugar, the barriers for which would be eliminated between 2006 and 2009. The United States of America initiated the African Growth and Opportunity Act in 2000, a framework for the country's trade and investment policy with countries in sub-Saharan Africa. Furthermore, a new series of trade negotiations under the auspices of the World Trade Organization (WTO) was launched in 2001 and is intended to focus on development issues of developing countries, in the context of the multilateral trading system.

12. Developments in the biennium 2001-2002 demonstrated that these challenges and concerns are still present in the new millennium. The slowdown of the world economy in 2001, owing to the sharp drop in investment in information and communication technologies and aggravated by the attacks of 11 September in the United States of America, reminded the international community of how swiftly a change in economic activity in a single country affects the world economy. The prolonged financial crisis in Argentina reveals, yet again, the shortcomings of the existing international financial architecture and, at the same time, shows how difficult it is to keep domestic macroeconomic policy consistent with a changing international economic environment. As the international community intensifies its focus on health improvement in general, and the HIV/AIDS pandemic in particular, the extent to which diseases have affected the economic and social aspects of many countries in sub-Saharan Africa is much more severe than previously estimated.

13. The section below provides an overview of the progress made in the 1990s towards achievement of the goals of the Declaration and the Strategy and those adopted by other United Nations summit meetings and conferences held during that decade in the light of the challenges and threats identified above.

IV. Progress made towards achievement of the goals and objectives of the Declaration and the Strategy

A. Economic growth

14. One of the main goals of both the Declaration and the Strategy is to revitalize economic growth in developing countries and stabilize short-term fluctuations in an expanding world economy. In paragraph 17 of the Strategy, the need is stressed for a supportive international economic environment and it is suggested that, in order to experience a genuine economic transformation, developing countries would have to aim for a growth rate of 7 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP).

15. The average rate of annual growth of GDP for the developing countries as a whole was 4.5 per cent for the period 1991-2000 (see table 1).[5] This was well below the 7 per cent target, but better than in the 1980s, when an average rate of annual growth of 2.3 per cent was recorded. During the past decade, Western Asia recovered from the decline of the 1980s, to achieve positive and stable growth. The

Table 1
Developing countries: growth of gross domestic product, 1981-2003
(Annual percentage change)

	1981-1990	1991-2000	1999	2000	2001[a]	2002[b]	2003[b]	Number of countries	Share of population (percentage)
Developing countries	2.3	4.5	3.5	5.8	2.0	3.3	4.9	95	78.5
Latin America and the Caribbean	1.1	3.1	0.4	3.9	0.3	0.3	3.1	24	8.5
Africa	2.0	2.2	2.9	3.0	2.9	2.7	4.2	38	12.8
Eastern and Southern Asia excluding China	6.6	5.3	5.9	6.8	2.1	4.6	5.5	17	31.9
Eastern and Southern Asia including China	7.0	6.5	6.3	7.1	3.7	5.4	6.0	18	53.2
Western Asia	-2.8	2.7	0.7	6.3	-1.2	1.7	4.7	15	4.0
Least developed countries	2.3	3.1	4.3	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.9	40	10.3
Sub-Saharan Africa	1.8	2.4	2.8	2.5	3.1	4.1	4.9	31	7.5
World	2.7	3.0	2.9	4.0	1.3	1.8	3.3	144	100

Source: Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations Secretariat.
[a] Partly estimated.
[b] Projection.

Table 2
Developing countries: growth of per capita gross domestic product
(Annual percentage change)

	1981-1990	1991-2000	1999	2000	2001[a]	2002[b]	Number of countries	Share of population (percentage)
Developing countries	0.8	2.8	1.9	4.1	0.5	1.8	95	100
Africa	-0.7	-0.2	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.4	38	16.3
Latin America and the Caribbean	-0.6	1.4	-1.1	2.4	-1.2	-1.1	24	10.8
Western Asia	-3.5	0.4	-1.5	4.1	-3.3	-0.3	15	5.1
Eastern and Southern Asia including China	4.7	5.0	4.8	5.7	2.4	4.1	18	67.8
Eastern and Southern Asia excluding China	3.9	3.5	4.1	5.0	0.5	3.0	17	40.7
Sub-Saharan Africa	-1.2	-0.3	0.2	0.0	0.5	1.6	31	9.6
Least developed countries	-0.5	0.5	1.7	2.1	2.1	2.2	40	13.2

Source: Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations Secretariat.
[a] Partly estimated.
[b] Projection.

economies of East and South Asia experienced the strongest growth among the developing regions during the 1990s, despite the Asian economic and financial crisis during the period 1997-1998. The overall economic performance of Africa, including sub-Saharan Africa, was marginally better in the 1990s than in the 1980s, although the rate remained the lowest among developing regions.

16. Improved growth of GDP, combined with a lower rate of population growth, translated into a higher average annual growth of per capita GDP during the 1990s than during the 1980s in all developing regions, except Eastern and Southern Asia, excluding China (see table 2). Despite the overall improvement, however, sub-Saharan Africa as a group had a negative per capita GDP growth for these two consecutive decades, implying that the average person of this group of countries had lower level of output in 2000 than in 1980 in real terms.

17. As indicated in the Strategy, acceleration in the process of industrialization must be a central element in the reactivation of development in the 1990s (para. 62) and, for several developing countries, agriculture would be an important means for economic growth (para. 72). The relative economic performance of developing regions during the 1990s was a reflection of the degree of progress made by each region in these two sectors. The strong growth of East Asian countries, in particular China, was supported by rapid industrialization of their economies (accompanied by strong export growth of manufacturing goods), while the economic growth of other developing regions, in particular sub-Saharan countries, was constrained by stagnant industrialization. As a result, East Asia accounted for more than 60 per cent of the total manufacturing value added of all developing countries in 2000, but the share of sub-Saharan Africa shrank from 2.3 per cent in 1991 to 1.6 per cent in 2000.[6]

18. In addition to the less vibrant industrial sector, Africa, in particular sub-Saharan Africa, did not experience strong growth in agricultural production — a main economic sector of the region. While agricultural production in sub-Saharan Africa during the 1990s grew at the annual rate of 2.8 per cent (virtually the same rate as in the 1980s), the region could have harvested more agricultural produce if it had avoided a number of natural and man-made disasters. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, natural disasters and human factors (including violent conflict) during the period 1990-1997 resulted in a 30 per cent loss in total agricultural production in the same period.[7]

B. International environment

19. The Strategy notes that a supportive external environment is crucial (para. 21) and that the sound macroeconomic management of the world economy is of paramount importance (para. 22) for a surge in development during the 1990s. It also states that the international trading system is the pillar of an interdependent world economy and should establish conditions of openness and fairness in the interest of all countries (para. 46). To that end, it calls for the successful and balanced conclusion of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations and for the required improvements, adaptation and reform that would strengthen the international trading system (para. 50). For the financial dimension of the international environment, the Strategy recognizes that adequate financial resources, both domestic and external, are a precondition for the revitalization of economic growth.

1. Trade

20. The average annual increase in merchandise export value in United States dollars for developing countries between 1990 and 2000 was 9 per cent, compared to 6 per cent for the world.[8] Even though developed countries were still the main world traders, the share of developing countries in world exports of manufactures increased to 27 per cent in 2000 from 17 per cent in 1990, so that developing countries as a group become more integrated actors in the global trading system. This reflected rapid industrialization in some developing countries, in particular in East Asia, including China. However, the share of Africa in exports by the developing countries of manufactures dropped to 3 per cent in 2000 from 5 per cent in 1990.

21. The Strategy suggests that developing countries should create trade opportunities among themselves (para. 49). Total merchandise exports from developing countries to other developing countries grew at an average rate of 10 per cent during the 1990s, in contrast to a 6.5 per cent average annual increase in exports from developing to developed countries. Rapid industrialization was again a critical factor for trade among developing countries: the share of manufactures in total merchandise exports was 63 per cent in 2000 compared to 54 per cent in 1990. In contrast, the share of agriculture in total merchandise exports declined from 16 per cent in 1990 to 12 per cent in 2000.[9]

22. Another reason for the increased trade among developing countries was the proliferation of regional trading blocs, in particular the Association of South-East Asian Nations and three trade groups in the Latin America and Caribbean region.[10] While African countries somewhat increased their regional trade during the 1990s, the lack of integration in regional production and inadequate physical infrastructure muted this trend. Intra-African trade is highly concentrated geographically, with virtually no trade between East and West Africa.[11]

23. The Uruguay Round, concluded in 1994, involved commitments covering trade in goods and services and intellectual property rights. While the Round has benefited developing countries in some areas, they still face high tariffs, quotas and non-tariff barriers when exporting goods such as textiles, clothing, and primary commodities. In 2000, the General Council of WTO established a special mechanism to deal with issues of implementation in response to the concerns of developing countries. More importantly, however, in November 2001, the Fourth Ministerial Conference of WTO, held at Doha, Qatar, decided to launch a new series of trade negotiations that would pay particular attention to the concerns of developing countries, as mentioned above.[12]

2. International financial flows

24. During the 1990s, capital flows to developing countries were mostly favourable until the occurrence of the Asian financial crisis. The net resource flows increased from the average of $45.9 billion per year during the 1980s to $206.9 billion in 1996 (see table 3), the year before the crisis, and then declined to $12.2 billion in 2000. The decline was a result of decrease in private financial flows — the dominant form of external flows to developing countries — in particular bank lending.

Table 3
Net resource flows to developing countries, 1980-2001
(Billions of United States dollars)

	Average 1981-1990	*Average 1991-1995*	*1996*	*1997*	*1998*	*1999*	*2000*	*2001[a]*
Total net flow	45.9	161.5	206.9	140.0	87.9	68.8	12.2	62.9
Net private capital flows	19.0	133.5	210.7	108.0	45.6	55.5	6.9	27.1
Net direct investment	12.7	54.4	104.5	126.9	133.3	140.4	130.6	151.5
Net portfolio investment[b]	5.4	56.0	73.6	38.8	-9.1	30.8	-7.1	-32.6
Other net investment[c]	1.0	23.0	32.7	-57.8	-78.6	-115.6	-116.6	-91.8
Net official flows	26.9	28.0	-3.8	32.0	42.3	13.3	5.3	35.8

Source: Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations Secretariat. Based on International Monetary Fund, *World Economic Outlook Database*, April 2002.

[a] Preliminary.

[b] Includes portfolio debt and equity flows.

[c] Includes short-term and long-term bank lending. It may include some official flows owing to data limitations.

25. While bank lending declined, foreign direct investment (FDI) became the single most important type of flow in the 1990s. At the same time, as capital markets in the world had become more liberalized and integrated, portfolio and equity flows, while showing large fluctuation in the late 1990s, have become more popular forms of financing than bank financing.

(a) Foreign direct investment

26. Despite the decline in external flows to developing countries in the late 1990s, foreign direct investment (FDI) continued to be the most stable and dominant form of private financial flows.[13] FDI flows to developing countries increased from $35 billion in 1991 to $185 billion in 1999, but declined to $178 billion in 2000. The FDI flows into East Asia declined to $58 billion in 2000 from a peak of $67 billion in 1997, with the bulk that flowed into the region directed to China, which received $41 billion in 2000. FDI flows into Latin America and the Caribbean showed a rising trend in the 1990s, reaching $76 billion in 2000. A partial reason for this increase was the implementation of a number of privatization programmes in the region. It should be noted that, owing to the relaxation of government barriers, the share of mergers and acquisitions in FDI flows to developing countries increased from 18 per cent in 1995 to 36 per cent in 1999. While FDI flows into Africa remained at the low level of $9.1 billion in 2000, flows into the region increased towards the end of the decade, mainly owing to the efforts made by governments to create more business-friendly environments.[14] FDI flows continue to be highly geographically concentrated: in 2000, the top 10 developing country recipients of FDI accounted for 74 per cent of total FDI flows to developing countries.

(b) Debt

27. The Strategy stresses the need for an early and durable solution to the problem of external indebtedness as a condition for the reactivation of development in many developing countries (para. 26) and calls for the broad implementation of recent

initiatives and measures to reduce the stock and service of debt of developing countries (para. 27).

28. The total debt stock of net-debtor developing countries increased to $2.2 trillion in 2000 from $1.3 trillion in 1990, but the ratio of the debt stock to exports of goods and services for developing countries as a whole improved, to 117 per cent in 2000 from 184 per cent in 1990.[15] While a significant improvement was observed in many large middle-income developing countries, low-income countries — many of them in Africa — continued to face severe debt-service obligations.

29. Under the enhanced HIPC initiative, which was endorsed in 1999 by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank, 26 of the 42 countries eligible for assistance reached their decision point and five countries reached their completion point by April 2002. According to IMF and the World Bank, the stock of debt of these 26 countries will fall by about two thirds, from about $62 billion in net-present-value terms to $22 billion, when the full debt relief pledged under pre-HIPC mechanisms and the HIPC initiative as well as additional bilateral debt relief beyond the initiative is fulfilled. A few other eligible countries that were faced with conflict or domestic governance issues, however, were unable to initiate the debt relief programme.[16]

30. In contrast to the progress made under the enhanced HIPC initiative, the debt sustainability of some low-income and middle-income countries that are not included in the initiative was not adequately addressed. Some of the indebted low-income countries are "blend countries",[17] which are excluded from schemes such as concessional rescheduling from the Paris Club or other forms of concessional debt relief, such as those covered by the HIPC initiative. The same applies to severely indebted middle-income countries. Special debt-relief measures are also needed to assist countries affected by war and natural disasters (A/55/422, para. 34).

(c) Official development assistance

31. The Strategy states that official development assistance (ODA) must remain an essential source of concessional aid to the developing countries, particularly to the poorest and the least developed (para. 40).

32. During the past decade, ODA from the countries of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) declined significantly and, by the end of 2000, had fallen to $54 billion, 0.22 per cent of the donors' combined gross national income (see table 4).[18] The share to the least developed countries declined from 27 per cent to 22 per cent between 1990 and 2000. Only five countries — Denmark, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Luxembourg — met the internationally agreed target of 0.7 per cent of national income. Aid was more directed towards social services (14 per cent of ODA in 2000 compared to 8 per cent in 1995) and more importance was placed on the "ownership" of the development agenda by the recipient country.[19] The prospects for halting the decline in official development assistance (ODA) improved when Canada, the European Union and the United States announced substantial increases in ODA at the International Conference on Financing for Development in March 2002.

Table 4
Net official development assistance from members of the Development Assistance Committee, 1990 and 2000

	1990		*2000*	
	Official development assistance (millions of United States dollars)	*Official development assistance/gross national income[a] (percentage)*	*Official development assistance (millions of United States dollars)*	*Official development assistance/gross national income[a] (percentage)*
Australia	955	0.34	987	0.27
Austria	394	0.25	423	0.23
Belgium	889	0.46	820	0.36
Canada	2 470	0.44	1 744	0.25
Denmark	1 171	0.94	1 664	1.06
Finland	846	0.63	371	0.31
France	7 194	0.60	4 105	0.32
Germany	6 320	0.42	5 030	0.27
Greece	...	...	226	0.20
Ireland	57	0.16	235	0.30
Italy	3 395	0.31	1 376	0.13
Japan	9 069	0.31	13 508	0.28
Luxembourg	...	...	127	0.71
Netherlands	2 538	0.92	3 135	0.84
New Zealand	95	0.23	113	0.25
Norway	1 205	1.17	1 264	0.80
Portugal	148	0.25	271	0.26
Spain	959	0.20	1 195	0.22
Sweden	2 007	0.91	1 799	0.80
Switzerland	750	0.32	890	0.34
United Kingdom	2 638	0.27	4 501	0.32
United States	11 394	0.21	9 955	0.10
Total	**52 960**	**0.33**	**53 737**	**0.22**

Source: Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, *Development Cooperation Report 2001* (Paris, 2001), table IV-1.

[a] Beginning in 2001, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development reports the ratio between official development assistance (ODA) and gross national income (GNI), instead of the ratio between ODA and gross national product (GNP). The change was made necessary by the 1993 revision of the System of National Accounts which discontinued the term GNP and replaced it with GNI, an equivalent concept.

C. Poverty and human resources development

33. One of the salient themes of the Strategy is the strengthening of the relationship between economic growth and human conditions. The Strategy stresses that economic growth is vital for the eradication of poverty and attaining social goals, such as

elimination of hunger and malnutrition, improving health, education, access to water and sanitation services and reducing mortality rates of children and women.

1. Poverty, hunger and malnutrition

34. Combating poverty has been the central theme of the major United Nations conferences and summit meetings convened during the past decade. Poverty is a multidimensional phenomenon characterized by low income and consumption, hunger and malnutrition, poor health, and lack of access to water and sanitation.

35. The proportion of people living on less than $1 a day (a standard poverty line measured by 1985 international prices) throughout the world declined from 29 per cent in 1990 to 23 per cent in 1999. This overall decline in poverty rates, however, was a result of a significant reduction in the number of people living in extreme poverty in East and South Asia, in particular in China. While in Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean the percentage of the population living in extreme poverty declined marginally (from, respectively, 48 and 17 per cent in 1990 to 47 and 15 per cent in 1997), the number of people living below the poverty line increased. In particular, many countries in sub-Saharan Africa were plagued with high rates of HIV/AIDS and other diseases, and some experienced political instability.

36. Reflecting this disappointing progress in poverty reduction, the number of those chronically undernourished in the developing world declined only slowly. About 780 million people in developing countries (17 per cent of the population) were estimated to be undernourished in the period 1997-1999, compared to 816 million (20 per cent of the population) in 1990-1992 (see table 5). As in the case of poverty reduction, however, this reduction was achieved by a small number of countries: in only 32 (including China) of the 99 developing countries for which estimates are available has there been a decrease in the numbers of undernourished between the periods 1990-1992 and 1997-1999.

Table 5
Number and proportion of undernourished persons in developing countries by region

	Number of undernourished (millions)		*Percentage of the population*	
Region or country group	*1990-1992*	*1997-1999*	*1990-1992*	*1997-1999*
Developing countries	816.3	777.2	20.1	17.0
Latin America and the Caribbean	58.6	53.6	13.3	10.8
South Asia	288.8	303.0	25.7	23.6
Near East and North Africa	25.1	32.5	7.8	8.6
Sub-Saharan Africa	167.7	194.0	35.3	33.9
Asia and the Pacific	564.8	497.1	20.0	15.9

Source: Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat. Based on Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), *The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2001* (Rome, 2001), table 1.

Note: Country groupings used by FAO differ from standard United Nations groupings as defined in *World Economic and Social Survey 2002* (forthcoming). For details, see table 1 cited above.

2. Health

37. Paragraph 90 of the Strategy states that attention needs to be given to primary health care and the prevention of chronic diseases, as well as to general development objectives such as sanitation, safe drinking water and nutrition, and that, in the field of health, special attention should be given to women and children. It is recalled that the international community had already agreed upon several targets for the 1990s, including the reduction of under-five mortality rates by one third below the level of 1990 or to 70 per 1,000 live births (whichever saved more lives), the reduction of malnutrition among children under five years of age by one half, and the halving of maternal mortality rates.

38. Major constraints to the achievement of progress in the health sector that are now recognized are rising health costs, inadequate levels of health spending, a shortage of appropriately qualified staff, climatic and geographical predisposition to disease, and physical conditions unfavourable to service delivery.[20]

(a) Mortality of children under five years of age

39. There were few fundamental changes in the trends in under-five mortality rates. As reported in the previous report of the Secretary-General (A/55/209), target rates of one third below the level of 1990, or 70 per 1,000 live births, were not achieved, even though Latin America and the Caribbean (a rate of 37 in 2000, compared to 53 in 1990) came close to the target.

(b) Child nutrition

40. Malnutrition causes one half of all child deaths worldwide. Progress was made in reducing child malnutrition worldwide during the 1990s: underweight prevalence in developing countries declined from 32 per cent in 1990 to 28 per cent in 2000, and the number of malnourished children under five years of age declined, from 177 million to 150 million during the same period.[20] The largest decline was achieved in East Asia, where underweight prevalence decreased from 19 to 10 per cent, or by nearly one half. The decrease in Latin America and the Caribbean was from 11 to 8 per cent and in sub-Saharan Africa was from 32 to 30 per cent. In the latter region, despite the progress achieved in a few countries, the absolute number increased to about 32 million during the 1990s. South Asia had the highest concentration of malnourished children, with 78 million — one half the world total.

(c) Safe drinking water and sanitation

41. The percentage of the world population with access to improved water sources increased from 77 per cent (4.1 billion) in 1990 to 82 per cent (4.9 billion) in 2000, but about 1.1 billion people still did not have access to safe drinking water. The greatest improvement was in South Central Asia, where numbers rose from 72 per cent of the population to 85 per cent between 1990 and 2000. Sub-Saharan Africa had the lowest coverage, with only 57 per cent in 2000 compared to 53 per cent in 1990. During the same period, access to safe drinking water in rural areas improved by 7 per cent, compared to a 1 per cent increase in rural areas, but the disparity in access between the two areas continued to be high.

42. Global sanitation coverage increased from 51 to 61 per cent between 1990 and 2000, with about 1 billion more people gaining access. Despite these improvements, 2.4 billion people, more than one half of all those living in Asia, lacked access to improved sanitation in 2000. The percentage of people with no access in sub-Saharan Africa was 12 per cent, and in Latin America and the Caribbean the percentage was 12 per cent. In urban areas of developing countries, the sanitation coverage increased from 81 to 85 per cent and in rural areas the coverage increased from 21 to 35 per cent between 1990 and 2000.

3. Education and literacy

43. The Strategy (para. 88) recognizes that education is both a basic human need and a prerequisite for achieving other objectives of development. It recalls that the international community had accepted the goals of providing universal access to basic education and completion of primary education by at least 80 per cent of those enrolled, and states that the eradication of illiteracy needs special emphasis, including its eradication among women. It also recalls the internationally agreed target of reducing adult illiteracy by one half during the 1990s.[21] While some progress was achieved in increasing primary school enrolment and adult literacy ratios during the decade, the pace of progress was not fast enough to reach the goals.

44. During the 1990s, the adult illiteracy rate in developing countries as a whole declined from 33 to 26 per cent (see table 6), thus missing the goal set by the Strategy of reducing adult illiteracy rates by 50 per cent by 2000. Moreover, in 2000, there were still 880 million illiterate adults in the world, two thirds of whom were women. The majority of illiterate people were located in the South Asian and East Asian and Pacific regions. The number of illiterate people in South Asia increased by 40 million in the 1990s, accounting for 47 per cent of the world total in 2000.[22] While illiteracy was highly concentrated among women in South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, such concentration was not observed in Latin America and the Caribbean and East Asia and the Pacific.

D. Situation of the least developed countries

45. The Strategy points out that the least developed countries were the hardest hit by the difficulties in the world economic scene during the 1980s and calls on the international community to take steps to avoid the marginalization of these countries in the world economy (para. 99). It specifies development assistance targets, increased access for the exports of the least developed countries to major markets, and encourages donors to take steps to provide further bilateral concessional debt forgiveness to the least developed countries (para. 100).

46. The average annual rate of growth of the least developed countries during the 1990s was 3.1 per cent, compared to 2.3 per cent in the 1980s (see table 1 above), while per capita GDP grew at an average annual rate of 0.5 per cent — an improvement over the negative 0.5 per cent average annual rate of the 1980s (see table 2 above). During the 1990s, while the least developed countries in South Asia experienced sustained growth, the growth performance of the same group of countries in sub-Saharan Africa was not encouraging.

Table 6
Adult illiteracy rates

Region	*1980*	*1990*	*1995*	*2000*
Developing countries				
Total	41.8	32.6	29.5	26.3
Female	52.9	41.9	38.1	34.2
Latin America and the Caribbean				
Total	20.3	14.9	13.3	11.7
Female	22.5	16.3	14.5	12.6
East Asia and the Pacific				
Total	30.8	19.9	16.6	13.4
Female	42.3	28.1	24.0	19.7
South Asia				
Total	60.7	53.1	49.5	45.8
Female	75.5	67.4	63.3	59.0
Sub-Saharan Africa				
Total	61.7	50.7	45.2	39.7
Female	72.2	60.3	54.0	47.6
Arab States				
Total	60.0	48.8	43.8	38.8
Female	75.2	63.4	57.2	51.0
Least developed countries				
Total	66.0	57.7	53.7	49.3
Female	77.7	68.8	64.4	59.5

Source: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Institute for Statistics.

Note: Country groupings used by UNESCO differ from standard United Nations groupings as defined in *World Economic and Social Survey 2002* (forthcoming). For details, see UNESCO, *World Education Report 2000: The Right to Education — Towards Education for All Throughout Life* (Paris, 2000), p. 112.

47. While the share of the least developed countries in world merchandise exports has been small, growth in the value of the merchandise exports of these countries outpaced that of total world merchandise trade for two consecutive years, 1999 and 2000,[23] mainly owing to robust exports of manufactured goods. The least developed countries that were involved in armed conflict and civil strife, however, experienced shrinking trade.

48. Exports by the least developed countries continued to face numerous barriers in developed country markets, especially agricultural products, garments and textiles, major export items from these countries. In 1996, WTO established a plan of action for the least developed countries at its First Ministerial Meeting in order to remove market access barriers and support trade development. Since that meeting, 11 countries and the European Community have improved their market access for the least developed countries.[24]

49. At the First United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Paris in 1990, when the total ODA provided by the DAC member countries to the least developed countries was 0.09 per cent of their combined GNP, it was agreed that donor countries would double previous aid levels, or attain a level of 0.15 per cent of national income for this group. In 2000, however, only five countries (Denmark, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden) met the target of 0.15 per cent.

50. During the 1990s, there was a decline in long-term capital flows into the least developed countries. The countries as a group received $4.5 billion in FDI in 2000. Most of the inflows to these countries was, however, concentrated in five countries rich in petroleum or minerals. The least developed countries in sub-Saharan Africa continued to have difficulties in attracting FDI owing to poor infrastructure, political uncertainty, insufficient market size and an unattractive investment climate.[25]

51. The least developed countries have made some progress in attaining social goals during the 1990s, but owing to low levels of economic growth, they did not make strides in all social indicators. During the decade, on average, 15 per cent of the children born in the least developed countries did not survive past the age of five, and life expectancy was approximately 51 years. The adult literacy rate for this group of countries was 49 per cent, compared to 81 per cent for other developing countries. Primary and secondary school enrolment rates were, respectively, 30 and 50 percentage points below other developing countries and among the least developed countries are countries that have the highest gender gap in education.[26] The rapid spread of contagious diseases such as HIV/AIDS in a number of the least developed countries in sub-Saharan Africa severely impeded progress.

52. Reflecting these continuing difficulties, only one country — Botswana — "graduated" successfully from the group of the least developed countries during the 1990s, while Senegal became a least developed country in 2000 (see E/2001/94 and Corr.1).

V. Related United Nations conferences in the new millennium

53. In the first decade of the new millennium, the challenges and threats identified above have been addressed, inter alia, in a number of United Nations global conferences, including the International Conference on Financing for Development, the World Conference against Racism, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, and the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries. As noted in paragraph 23 above, the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization also focused on the challenges faced by the developing countries.

54. The United Nations Millennium Declaration,[27] which was adopted at the Millennium Summit in September 2000, contains goals and objectives urging action by countries and other stakeholders. The millennium development goals include targets on reducing extreme poverty, education, health, gender equality and the environment, with the eradication of extreme poverty being the overarching millennium development goal. The Millennium Declaration also contains a special section on Africa, emphasizing that this region faces special challenges and that the attainment of its development goals is the most difficult (see E/2001/83).

55. At the International Conference on Financing for Development, held at Monterrey, Mexico, in March 2002, the heads of State and Government acknowledged that resources are needed to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including those specified in the Millennium Declaration. The strengthening of the global economic system's support for development was also stressed. The Monterrey Consensus also notes that good governance at all levels is necessary for sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development.[28]

Notes

[1] These include the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (1992), the International Conference on Population and Development (1994), the Fourth World Conference on Women (1995) and the World Summit for Social Development (1995).

[2] Information on the initiatives that were launched at the conferences is contained in annex V to the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of major United Nations conferences and summits: a critical review of the development of indicators in the context of conference follow-up" (E/1999/11).

[3] A comprehensive review of economic and social development during the 1990s is provided in the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration (A/57/270).

[4] *Poverty amidst Riches: The Need for Change. Report of the Committee for Development Policy on the Second Session* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.II.A.4).

[5] For more recent global economic trends, see chapter I of United Nations, *World Economic and Social Survey 2002* (forthcoming).

[6] Data provided by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization.

[7] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *The State of Food and Agriculture 2000* (Rome, 2000), pp. 77-78. The organization includes Nigeria in statistics for sub-Saharan Africa.

[8] World Trade Organization, "Overview of developments in the international trading environment: annual report by the Director-General" (WT/MIN(01)/2), pp. 46-47; see also tables III.2 and III.3.

[9] Ibid., p. 50.

[10] For the evolution of intraregional trade since 1970, see World Bank, *World Development Indicators 2002* (Washington, D.C., 2002), table 6.5.

[11] See *World Economic and Social Survey, 2001: Trends and Policies in the World Economy* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.01.II.A.4), table A.14.

[12] United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, *Trade and Development Report 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.D.2).

[13] *World Economic and Social Survey 2001*, ..., p. 45.

[14] *World Investment Report*, 2001 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.01.II.D.12), p. 19.

[15] *World Economic and Social Survey* (various issues).

[16] *World Economic and Social Survey 2002* ..., chap. I (forthcoming).

[17] Blend countries are eligible for a "blend" of International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and International Development Association (IDA) funds. Countries covered under the HIPC initiatives are eligible only for IDA funds.

[18] For details, see chapter II of *World Economic and Social Survey 2002* ...

[19] World Bank, op. cit., p. 85.

[20] World Health Organization, *Macroeconomics and Health: Investing in Health for Economic Development. Report of the Commission on Macroeconomics and Health* (Geneva, 2001).

[21] No new information on education became available to the Secretariat after the issuance of the previous report (A/55/209).

[22] United Nations Children's Fund, *Progress since the World Summit for Children: A Statistical Review* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.01.XX.20).

[23] World Trade Organization, "Overview of developments in the international trading environment ...", p. 7.

[24] Ibid., p. 18. The 11 countries are: Canada, Egypt, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mauritius, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, Switzerland, Turkey and United States of America.

[25] United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, *The Least Developed Countries 2002 Report* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.D.13), p. 9.

[26] _____, *The Least Developed Countries 2000 Report* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.II.D.21), p. 8.

[27] General Assembly resolution 55/2.

[28] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I.

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Challenges and progress in implementing the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries and the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade

Report of the Secretary-General

Corrigendum

Paragraph 41, last sentence

For compared to a 1 per cent increase in rural areas *read* compared to a 1 per cent increase in urban areas

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Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

Report of the Secretary-General**

Summary

On 21 December 2001, by its resolution 56/216 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the General Assembly acknowledged the increasing contribution of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) to the establishment and maintenance of international peace and security in its region through activities in early warning and preventive diplomacy, including through the activities of the High Commissioner for National Minorities, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation, and arms control and disarmament. The Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the resolution to it at its fifty-seventh session. The present report reviews cooperation between the United Nations system and OSCE since the last report on the question, of 29 June 2001 (A/56/125).

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I. Consultations and exchanges of information

1. During the past year, the Secretary-General has had the opportunity to meet with the Chairman-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and with its Secretary-General. In February 2002, the annual high-level tripartite meeting of the United Nations, OSCE and the Council of Europe took place in Strasbourg, France, and was preceded by a target-oriented meeting on confidence-building measures in South-East Europe. The United Nations attended the OSCE ministerial meeting in Bucharest.

II. Information received from the United Nations system and others

A. United Nations Secretariat

1. Department of Political Affairs

2. The Department of Political Affairs met in December 2001 with an OSCE delegation led by the Director of its Conflict Prevention Centre. Issues of mutual concern discussed included counter-terrorism, the Balkans, the Caucasus and Central Asia. The importance of information-sharing was highlighted in these meetings, especially in light of the evolving relationship between the United Nations and regional organizations in Europe. It is anticipated that such sessions will become an established practice. As a follow-up to the 2001 fourth high-level conference with heads of regional organizations, OSCE participated in a working-level meeting in April 2002 in New York on cooperation in conflict prevention and peace-building. In this context, the Department organized and chaired a separate meeting between OSCE and interested partners within the United Nations system. Issues such as the need to think about integrated approaches to peace operations, including peace-building, were discussed at the regional organizations' meeting. In an effort to establish close cooperation and a coordinated approach to combating terrorism, on 12 June 2002, the Department participated in the high-level conference on preventing and combating terrorism, held in Lisbon.

2. Department for Disarmament Affairs

3. The Conventional Arms Branch of the Department for Disarmament Affairs participated in a workshop on the implementation of the OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons, organized by the Forum for Security Cooperation of OSCE in Vienna. Participation in this event represented a major step towards deepening cooperation on issues related to the proliferation of small arms and light weapons, following the adoption of the Programme of Action by the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects in July 2001. At the workshop, the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre and the Department agreed to cooperate on facilitating the implementation of the Programme of Action of the Conference as well as to share relevant information, particularly for the operation of an international database, to be developed and managed by the Department, that would incorporate information on all global activities devoted to the Programme of Action.

3. Department of Peacekeeping Operations

(a) United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia

4. The United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG) continues to cooperate closely with OSCE on matters of mutual concern, in particular the pursuit of a comprehensive settlement of the conflict in Abkhazia, Georgia. To this end, OSCE participates in the United Nations-led Geneva peace process mechanisms, such as the Coordinating Council and the three working groups operating under its auspices. UNOMIG regularly briefs visiting OSCE delegations on the latest developments in the conflict settlement process. A large group of heads of OSCE delegations, led by the Chairman of the Permanent Council, met with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Georgia on 13 October 2001 to explore possibilities for further collaboration. UNOMIG frequently consults with the OSCE Mission to Georgia on matters related to the implementation of the recommendations of the report on the joint assessment mission to the Gali district, in which OSCE took an active part. Of particular common interest is the proposed establishment of a branch of the United Nations Human Rights Office in Abkhazia, Georgia, in the Gali district, which would operate on the same basis and modalities as its parent office in Sukhumi.

5. Particularly noteworthy is the ongoing cooperation within the framework of the Human Rights Office which was established in 1996 as an integral part of UNOMIG. This cooperation is based on a memorandum of understanding, signed on 29 April 1997 between the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and OSCE. According to the memorandum of understanding, OSCE contributes one officer who works in the Human Rights Office under the authority of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. The joint human rights objectives of the United Nations and OSCE are to promote respect for human rights, protect the human rights of the population of Abkhazia, contribute to a safe and dignified return of refugees and internally displaced persons through improvement of the human rights situation, and report on human rights developments in conformity with United Nations and OSCE practices. The Human Rights Office regularly meets with the OSCE Human Dimension Office in Tbilisi in order to exchange information and experiences in the field of human rights and the development of a civil society.

6. In 2001 and 2002, the Human Rights Office has been facilitating, with the financial support of the OSCE Mission to Georgia, the implementation of projects aimed at promoting human rights standards through educational activities and capacity-building exercises for local law enforcement agencies, non-governmental organizations, the mass media and higher educational establishments. One such initiative was a series of six round-table seminars which were organized in different regions of Abkhazia within the framework of a project entitled "Women — Leaders in Modern Society", implemented by the Abkhaz Women's Association. The seminars gathered women's organizations, students, intellectuals, members of the de facto Parliament, local authorities, and journalists with the objective of raising awareness of women's rights in Abkhazia and enhancing the role of women in public life. In addition, weekend courses on human rights, for approximately sixty children from the northern part of Abkhazia, were organized for the second year by the local non-governmental organization, the Youth Centre, in Gagra city. The objective was to promote civil and political rights among children, using interactive teaching methods and role play combined with conflict resolution techniques.

(b) United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina

7. The United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH) works closely with OSCE on human rights, trial monitoring, judicial reform and the implementation of property legislation. Under the new coordination mechanisms, UNMIBH works in a cooperative partnership with OSCE and other international organizations on the three Task Forces for Return and Reconstruction, Institution-Building, and Rule of Law. UNMIBH and OSCE are also key members of the Regional Judicial Reform Working Group (chaired by the Independent Judicial Commission) which addresses the issue of disciplinary action to be taken against unsuitable judges. The Criminal Justice Advisory Unit of UNMIBH also coordinates with OSCE on tracking criminal cases throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina. The OSCE Human Rights Office chairs the Human Rights Working Group, which is a component of the task force on the rule of law. In this forum, UNMIBH contributes to issues pertaining to the monitoring of trials and juvenile justice. It cooperates with OSCE on specific classes of cases, particularly those pertaining to the trafficking of women and return-related violence. The UNMIBH Human Rights Office works closely with OSCE on a broad range of issues relating to the implementation of property laws and verification of the safe return of people to their pre-war properties. UNMIBH has also participated in Stabilization Force and OSCE-led meetings on downsizing entity armed forces.

8. While cooperation with OSCE has been generally productive in the areas of human rights and property issues in the field, at times there has been a problem of competing priorities and competencies. The difficulty of coordination between the five major international organizations working in Bosnia and Herzegovina stems largely from the lack of a comprehensive plan that "prioritizes the priorities" of the five organizations and unites them in a single strategic vision. This is even more important when international financial resources are diminishing and local resources are insufficient to sustain all the different institutions that each international actor considers to be vital to its own programme. The lesson learned is that international organizations need to coordinate at the strategic level before launching individual initiatives that compete for scarce resources.

(c) United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo

9. OSCE is one of the four pillars of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) in charge of institution-building in Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. In this regard, UNMIK became the first joint operation in which regional actors worked together under the United Nations umbrella.

10. Elections remain a major area of close cooperation between UNMIK and OSCE. Cooperation with the UNMIK Directorate of Administrative Affairs secures the creation of final voters' lists for both central and municipal elections. UNMIK Regional Administrators provide logistical support for the local electoral management bodies (Municipal Election Commissions) to undertake their duties effectively. The Central Civil Registry is further updating voters' residency data, and people with incorrect data are being directed to the Municipal Civil Registration Centres so that they can amend their civil record. This effort directly affects access to the electoral process and avoids the disenfranchisement of minority groups with regard to the forthcoming municipal elections. This will enable OSCE to create the voters list which is essential for administering the municipal elections scheduled for October 2002.

11. UNMIK and OSCE have also been collaborating on developing independent and sustainable private and public media in Kosovo through the establishment of the Temporary Media Commissioner, an ad hoc regulatory body, and the drafting of a regulation establishing an Independent Media Commission.

12. OSCE has regularly participated in weekly Civil Administration inter-pillar meetings. OSCE field representatives attend most of the formal meetings of the Municipal Assemblies and the Boards of Directors in the municipalities. They are also invited to participate in ad hoc bodies and special meetings. There is close coordination between the Local Community Officers and OSCE representatives on various minority issues relating to human rights, minority property matters and the establishment and functioning of the Communities and Mediation Committees in the Municipalities and their capacity-building. In the area of training, the policy of the Kosovo Civil Service has been defined with the adoption of a training policy paper for the next three years. OSCE has also provided training for Kosovar civil servants at the central and municipal levels, with specific focus on legal issues, the management of human resources, public finance and procurement and budgeting, as well as sponsoring for local and overseas training courses in specific sectors such as transport and communications. The Civil Administration actively consulted with OSCE in the drafting of the Essential Labour Law for Kosovo, which was finally promulgated in October 2001. OSCE supports the establishment of the Kosovo Institute of Public Administration which builds upon the OSCE-created Institute for Civil Administration.

13. With regard to the police and justice pillar, OSCE is in permanent contact with the Department of Justice on implementing recommendations set forth in the latest report of the Legal Systems Monitoring Section. The Department of Justice and OSCE have also collaborated in the implementation of the six-month judicial review, the monitoring of judicial proceedings, particularly in sensitive cases of an ethnic nature, and in the drafting of UNMIK regulations. OSCE plays an important role in the creation by the Department of Justice of a victim advocacy and assistance unit. OSCE continues to operate the Kosovo Judicial Institute which trains local as well as international judges and prosecutors on issues such as organized crime, trafficking, narcotics and juvenile justice. While Kosovo Police Service officers are recruited by UNMIK, OSCE provides their training as well as training for Kosovo Correctional Service officers at the Kosovo Police Service School. So far, more than 1,000 local correctional officers have been trained (many from minorities). The Office of Community Policing has cooperated with OSCE on a number of issues, including training, programme development and working-group studies. A domestic/dating anti-violence programme began as a joint UNMIK and OSCE project in the Podujevo Municipality. The plan, which is in a "train-the-trainers" format with eventual classroom instruction of secondary school students, is now at the regional implementation stage in Pristina, with the objective of ultimately running the programme in every region. There have also been monthly meetings with senior officials of OSCE. A Human Rights Oversight Committee and Working Group, for which OSCE acts as secretariat and which gathers all UNMIK pillars, has been established to mainstream human rights in UNMIK policy. OSCE participates in the Joint Advisory Council for Legislative Matters, a

body set up by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Kosovo in order to guarantee legislative input from local professionals and international actors.

14. As for the reconstruction and economic development pillar, OSCE supports elections to the workers' councils of socially owned enterprises. The councils constitute the management boards of these firms, and OSCE has provided assistance with the organization of elections to the councils.

4. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

15. OSCE, which has actively contributed to the preparation and launching of the Fribourg Process on regional cooperation and coordination in crisis management, led by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, is an important counterpart for the Office in addressing this issue in regional and subregional fora, such as institutions of the European Union, the Inter-State Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Central European Initiative, the South-Eastern European Defence Ministerial, the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and Partnership for Peace events. In the framework of the Fribourg Forum follow-up activities, consultations are ongoing on further cooperation on the utilization of respective field crisis-management tools, such as the OSCE Rapid Expert Assistance and Cooperation Teams and the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination Team/Military and Civil Defence Assets systems of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. The latest developments on policy and field cooperation in humanitarian action were also raised and reviewed by the United Nations delegation at the high-level tripartite consultations between OSCE, the Council of Europe and the United Nations that took place in Strasbourg on 7 and 8 February 2002.

16. At the field level, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and OSCE have recognized the need for increased coordination and formalized information sharing, including with non-governmental organizations, working in the Caucasus. In particular, joint United Nations and OSCE efforts to sustain humanitarian action relating to the repatriation of Chechen refugees from Georgia to the Russian Federation and Ossetian refugees from North Ossetia (Russian Federation) to South Ossetia (Georgia) are considered to be essential. In the same context, the Office and OSCE are also discussing possible cooperation for ensuring coordinated high-profile advocacy and operational support required to grant access for humanitarian organizations to the Caucasus.

B. United Nations Office at Geneva

17. The Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva, the Secretary-General and Chairman-in-Office of OSCE and the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe continue to hold annual high-level meetings to discuss issues of mutual concern, both at the level of headquarters and in the field. The European Union/European Commission is now affiliated with this "tripartite" process, and participates at a senior level on a basis now referred to as "tripartite plus". In identifying themes for target-oriented discussion, traditionally held at expert level with an emphasis on practical issues, priority is given to areas in which the United Nations, Council of Europe and other "tripartite plus" partners are working together in post-conflict situations.

18. The United Nations Office at Geneva and OSCE maintain excellent bilateral relations and the Secretary-General of OSCE visited Geneva in May 2002. The United Nations Office at Geneva also liaises informally with the Offices of the High Commissioners for Human Rights and Refugees, the Geneva branch of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and the Economic Commission for Europe in order to promote, where possible, a collaborative approach to the OSCE secretariat. OSCE has been invited to participate in activities of the informal network linking the United Nations research and training institutes based in Geneva and Turin.

C. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

19. Cooperation with regional organizations, including with OSCE, is central to the regional strategy for Europe, Central Asia and the Caucasus of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). In 2001 and 2002, the Office intensified its cooperation with OSCE in a number of substantive areas and geographic regions. The High

Commissioner for Human Rights and the Director of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights formalized arrangements by an exchange of letters in May 2002 to expand the nature and depth of collaboration in countries of Europe, Central Asia and North America. They appointed senior and working-level contact points, with the task of determining priorities and reviewing accomplishments on a semi-annual basis, and providing continuous liaison and cooperation in priority areas. Highlighted areas of cooperation include the issue of human rights and terrorism, technical assistance programmes in Central Asia and the South Caucasus, human rights training throughout the region, and the strengthening of national human rights institutions and the office of ombudsman.

20. The Regional Adviser for Europe, Central Asia and the Caucasus of the High Commissioner for Human Rights conducted several meetings with OSCE representatives in Vienna, Warsaw and in the field between October 2001 and May 2002, with a view to strengthening inter-office cooperation and identifying priorities in joint strategic planning.

21. In November 2001, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Director of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights and the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe issued a joint statement on human rights and terrorism. They urged that measures to eradicate terrorism should not lead to excessive curbs on human rights, and stressed that some rights may not be derogated from in any circumstances. The statement called on all States to ensure that measures restricting human rights in response to terrorism strike a fair balance between legitimate national security concerns and fundamental freedoms, consistent with their commitments under international law. The three organizations offered technical assistance to States that are developing legislative responses to terrorism.

22. The Office of the High Commissioner works with OSCE as well as the Council of Europe and other organizations in the Gender Task Force and the Trafficking Task Force of the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe. Objectives of cooperation include the development of a common regional approach and the promotion of legal frameworks to prevent trafficking and provide protection to victims. OHCHR has also participated in a number of human dimension meetings organized by the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights. OSCE took an active role in events leading up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, including through participation in meetings at the European level in the lead-up to the Conference.

23. The Office of the High Commissioner coordinates closely with OSCE field missions in Europe and Central Asia. In the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, it works with OSCE field presences in policy development, human rights monitoring and human rights awareness activities. In Belgrade, consultations between OHCHR, OSCE and the Council of Europe have resulted in joint strategic support to the establishment of a national human rights institution. In the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, OHCHR conducts ongoing consultations with the OSCE Police Development Unit in its work aimed at promoting and strengthening cooperation between civil society and the police. In Croatia, the Office has consulted with the OSCE field mission on the formulation and implementation of its exit strategy. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, it works closely with OSCE in relation to the human rights aspects of the rule of law pillar created by the Peace Implementation Council, as well as on issues such as trafficking in human beings and measures to promote employment. OSCE invited OHCHR to participate in a working-level meeting of its missions in south-east Europe, held in Sarajevo in June 2002.

24. The Office of the High Commissioner seeks to coordinate and implement its country activities with OSCE missions elsewhere in the region, including in the southern Caucasus and the five countries of Central Asia. Inter-agency consultations on developments in Chechnya, Russian Federation, take place on a regular basis between OSCE, the Council of Europe, OHCHR and other organizations. OSCE field missions provided valuable support and advice to a subregional needs assessment mission to Central Asia carried out by the Office in spring 2002. It is expected that any future OHCHR activities in Central Asia will emphasize close coordination with OSCE field presences.

D. Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention

25. Cooperation between the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention and OSCE has increased

substantially since OSCE began to give a higher priority to the issues of illicit drugs, organized crime, and terrorism, which are serious threats to security and stability in Europe. Areas of cooperation range from drug control, combating international terrorism, money-laundering, trafficking in human beings and trafficking in explosives and small arms, to participation in respective and joint meetings and workshops, common situation reviews and the development of joint activities.

26. In order to address the latest developments in the Central Asian region and beyond, the Office, jointly with OSCE, convened in Bishkek in late 2001 the International Conference on Enhancing Security and Stability in Central Asia: Strengthening the Comprehensive Efforts to Counter Terrorism. The Conference resulted in a Declaration and a Programme of Action requesting both organizations to enhance synergy and coordination in providing technical assistance. As a follow-up, the Office and OSCE developed a proposal to organize national workshops in five Central Asian States on combating money-laundering and the financing of terrorism. The proposal is being presented to the Governments of those States as well as to potential donors.

27. Both organizations, since they are based in Vienna, have increased participation in their respective meetings on subjects of mutual interest such as drug trafficking and organized crime in the Balkan region, preparation for the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and the Vienna Symposium on combating terrorism. Outside headquarters, contributions to and participation in respective events have been strengthened. Wherever possible, the Office will carry out some of its technical assistance activities in the area of strengthening the legal regime against international terrorism with OSCE. With the objective of improving stability in the Balkan region, possibilities for joint activities in the fields of intelligence systems and cross-border regional cooperation have been discussed with OSCE.

E. Economic Commission for Europe

28. A Common Catalogue of Cooperation Modalities between the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and OSCE has been created by the two organizations as a way to strengthen their cooperation. A synthesis of the catalogue is to be posted on each organization's web site. Cooperation has developed through ECE participation in OSCE activities in the economic dimension, the preparation of review documents, papers and economic analyses for the annual OSCE Economic Forum, provision of a platform for strategic thinking on the role of economic factors in conflict, and training of government officials in conflict prevention. The Commission participates in the annual high-level tripartite meetings organized in turn by OSCE, the Council of Europe and the United Nations Office at Geneva. It also attends consultations between the United Nations and regional organizations, which are intended to strengthen cooperation and coordination on conflict prevention. With a view to improving the organizational structure, and without prejudice to the functions of the Economic Forum, an Economic and Environmental Subcommittee of the Permanent Council has been established by OSCE. The Commission attends meetings of the Subcommittee to inform members of progress and to discuss new proposals for cooperation.

29. Monitoring and implementation by ECE of commitments made by OSCE participating States in the economic dimension includes macroeconomic analysis and data published in the annual economic survey, data on the implementation of ECE conventions relevant to conflict prevention, and legal developments in the fields of property and business laws.

30. In the area of early warning and early response, a key challenge is to develop cooperation in ways that can have an impact on preventing conflict in the region. Indicators of imminent violence include factors in the economic dimension, such as discrimination against ethnic and minority groups in the labour market or restrictions regarding access to natural resources. Other threats include risks from terrorist attacks on infrastructure or strategic facilities. Modalities of cooperation include meetings of ECE and OSCE expert groups and channelling information on threats picked up by the business community and non-governmental organizations, since they are often the first to be aware of conflicts, and disruptions to business are often an early-warning signal. The Commission and OSCE have also organized a training programme for government officials on conflict prevention, in cooperation with the United Nations Staff College. In order to examine the new threats to security in the economic dimension and how to respond to them, the ECE and OSCE jointly organized an informal meeting of experts in November

2001 in Villars, Switzerland. A second event could focus on the contribution of the business community in security-enhancing actions, such as fighting illegal trade and strengthening institutions, transparency and good governance. In the area of information exchange, ECE and OSCE have agreed to inform each other in good time of all events relating to the economic dimensions of security. OSCE participating States will also receive copies of ECE publications, notably the annual economic survey.

31. On the environment, OSCE and the Commission hold joint seminars to help in the ratification and implementation of the Aahrus Convention. OSCE and ECE are initiating the development of standard modules for the promotion of the Convention. OSCE is committed to supporting actively the "Environment for Europe" process, especially with regard to the component dealing with water, environment and security in Central Asia. OSCE is also promoting among local players and donors the ECE Environmental Programme for South Caucasus.

F. United Nations Development Programme

32. There has been a significant step forward in terms of strengthening and institutionalizing the cooperative relationship the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) had already been nurturing with OSCE at the country level. A first annual meeting of the OSCE secretariat, United Nations Headquarters and UNDP took place in December 2001, which brought senior-working-level officials of both institutions to agree, inter alia, on the facilitation of information flow at the headquarters level, increased cooperation on strategic issues such as small arms and light weapons, and mutual invitations to regional-level meetings. There was a special visit to New York by the OSCE High Commissioner for National Minorities, aimed at establishing the framework for cooperation in the region. Informal visits and exchange of information have continued as well.

33. Small arms reduction is one of the strategic areas in which UNDP has explored successfully ways of concrete cooperation with OSCE. Through closer contacts at all levels of its work on small arms reduction, UNDP has made a significant contribution to the implementation of the OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons, particularly in promoting its agenda on early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation under section V of the Document. The ongoing development of a roster of experts, joint launch with the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe of the regional small arms clearing house, in Belgrade, and programme developments in Albania and Kosovo have all identified OSCE as a potential partner of UNDP. These possibilities were confirmed at the OSCE conference on small arms and light weapons, held in Vienna in February 2002. Discussions are under way on possible cooperation in Georgia as well.

34. Other areas of cooperation include UNDP and OSCE agreement to collaborate on the Parliamentary Conference, which is being organized by the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, to take place in Almaty in October 2002. On the Roma issue, consultations are under way with the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights on the scope of cooperation.

35. At the country level, close cooperation between UNDP and the OSCE High Commissioner for National Minorities in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Ukraine, has entered its sixth year. Discussions are under way on expanding cooperation to new areas such as support for the Ombudsman's Office and the Roma issue. The OSCE and UNDP have developed and initiated implementation of an integrated programme for the region of Samtskhe-Javakheti, Georgia, aiming at stabilization of the situation through long-term preventive development. In the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, UNDP assistance in judicial reform, gender issues, and peace-building in south Serbia all involved cooperation with OSCE. In Kosovo, cooperation ranged from efforts to mobilize youth in promoting the culture of peace and consultations on the preparation of UNDP Early Warning Reports, to a joint effort aimed at promoting an independent media. Close working contacts between respective field presences or offices, including the regular exchange of information and joint discussion of upcoming events, have been maintained as well.

G. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

36. Regular consultations have been pursued between the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the various OSCE

institutions. Liaison officers attached to the UNHCR Branch Office in Vienna have facilitated the information flow and made important contributions to joint initiatives. In addition to a number of regional and local events in the OSCE region, UNHCR has made contributions to tripartite high-level and target-oriented meetings, the OSCE Ministerial Council and Human Dimension meetings. The events of 11 September gave rise to complementary efforts by both organizations to address human security and protection issues raised by the debate on terrorism, and in response to the increased attention to human trafficking through regional and subregional events. Renewed focus on cooperation to reduce and prevent statelessness has included working contacts with the OSCE High Commissioner for National Minorities. OSCE hosted an inter-agency consultation of heads of field missions of UNHCR, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and the Council of Europe, which led to inter-agency meetings in the South Caucasus and Central Asia.

37. In the countries of Eastern Europe and Central Asia, there have been expert consultations with Governments and non-governmental organizations, Government cross-border dialogue and capacity-building initiatives in support of comprehensive approaches in asylum and migration management. In Armenia and Azerbaijan, UNHCR cooperation has included joint efforts to reach out to civil society and internally displaced persons on issues of statelessness and citizenship and registration or privatization that affect refugees and internally displaced persons. In Azerbaijan, UNHCR and OSCE closely cooperate on legislation regarding non-governmental organizations and full implementation of the national citizenship law adopted in 1998. Together with its United Nations partners, UNHCR maintains contingency preparedness for return in case of a political settlement of the conflict in and around the Nagorny Karabakh region of Azerbaijan. Both organizations have been cooperating actively in promoting a temporary asylum regime for Russian asylum-seekers originating from Chechnya, Russian Federation. In Georgia, meetings of the Joint Control Commission for the Georgia-Ossetia conflict, of which UNHCR is a partner, have renewed the dialogue among representatives of the Georgian Government, South Ossetia, the Russian Federation and North Ossetia-Alania to promote solutions and build confidence among the parties. OSCE has been supportive of the United Nations-led peace process on Abkhazia, where UNHCR increased its assistance in 2001. In the Russian Federation, UNHCR exchanges information with the OSCE Assistance Group for Chechnya on the protection of internally displaced persons and returnees and on humanitarian assistance issues. UNHCR is carrying out a joint training event with the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights for the judiciary in Chechnya on international human rights law and the guiding principles on internally displaced persons.

38. Cooperation between UNHCR and OSCE in the five countries of Central Asia includes regular discussions and exchanges of views. Periodic seminars on human rights and refugee law are jointly financed by the two agencies. In Kazakhstan, UNHCR and OSCE agreed to organize joint initiatives on legislative reforms, the strengthening of civil society and potentially in the training of civil servants. In Kyrgyzstan, the two organizations share information on political developments, particularly in the south where OSCE recently opened an office, and continue to organize joint projects such as the annual "summer course on human rights". In Tajikistan, following the hand-over by UNHCR of reintegration activities, OSCE, in close coordination with UNHCR, is engaged in the monitoring of the human rights of returnees. There has also been close collaboration in specific cases, such as the expulsion of Tajiks from Uzbekistan in early 2001. In Turkmenistan, collaboration extends to cooperative initiatives to promote refugee law. A particularly sensitive human rights situation in Uzbekistan tends to take priority over refugee issues on the agenda of OSCE and the Government. Cooperation between UNHCR and OSCE is thus limited, although mutual support is extended whenever needed.

39. In the countries of south-eastern Europe, UNHCR participates actively in the OSCE-chaired Friends of Albania initiative. OSCE has been cooperating with UNHCR, the Government of Albania and other organizations in implementing the pre-screening procedures for detained foreigners since they were launched in 2001. In the Republic of Moldova, UNHCR monitors and supports the human dimension of issues linked to displacement and its prevention, in addition to the pursuit of its mandated activities. While having handed over operational activities to UNDP, UNHCR continues to monitor the integration and access to citizenship of the Tartars, formerly deported peoples returning to Crimea, Ukraine. The OSCE High

Commissioner for National Minorities participates in the inter-agency framework established for this question.

40. In the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, close working contacts between the two organizations have developed in support of re-integration and to improve the treatment of Albanian minority communities in southern Serbia. Other areas of activity include legal reform with an impact on asylum-seekers and refugees, training activities on human rights and asylum issues, the prevention of trafficking in human beings, and the promotion of conditions for the return of displaced and refugee populations to Kosovo, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia, especially as regards property rights. Cooperation in Kosovo covers a range of issues related to the protection of minority communities and the return of internally displaced persons. Both organizations have continued to produce joint assessment reports on the situation of ethnic minorities in Kosovo. These assessments are a key point of reference for Governments, international agencies and non-governmental organizations concerned with the situation of minorities and their return. Cooperation has also been extended to property rights, gender-related issues, the rule of law and the judiciary and the trafficking in human beings. The principal focus of cooperation in Bosnia is the implementation of the legislative framework and establishment of practices to facilitate the return of displaced persons and refugees to their pre-war homes and to enable returnees to reclaim their property. Cooperation between OSCE and UNHCR in Croatia emphasizes issues affecting the return of refugees and internally displaced persons such as property restitution, tenancy rights, the monitoring of judicial procedures on war crimes, the security of returnees and the promotion of a framework for the protection of minorities. In the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, UNHCR works closely with OSCE in monitoring the situation of returnees, particularly in identifying continuing obstacles to return and the action necessary to overcome them, while interacting with the Government on issues of confidence-building. OSCE and UNHCR also enjoyed significant cooperation during the drafting of the Law on Amnesty, with OSCE giving full support to the position of UNHCR on specific aspects of the Law. Both institutions have supported the establishment of a Roma Refugee Committee. UNHCR has also supported the OSCE initiative to establish a media desk in Tetovo, which aims to promote multi-ethnic cooperation among journalists. In Montenegro, UNHCR and the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights have focused on empowerment of the Roma community and capacity-building for non-governmental organizations, as well as the training of the judiciary, the police and civil society.

H. United Nations Children's Fund

41. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has collaborated with the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights and with OSCE field missions in a number of areas for the promotion and protection of the rights of children and women. To address the problem of children in armed conflict in Central and Eastern Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Baltic region, UNICEF has advocated the strengthening of OSCE policies and programmes in support of children's rights, with an emphasis on those affected by armed conflicts. UNICEF participated in various meetings organized by OSCE on the development of their draft policy paper on the promotion and protection of the rights, interests and welfare of the child, in particular of children affected by armed conflict. The two organizations collaborated on the promotion and monitoring of children's rights in many countries, including Albania, Armenia and the United Nations-administered province of Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. In the Russian Federation, OSCE and UNICEF collaborated in the area of school rehabilitation and the distribution of materials as part of the emergency programme in the northern Caucasus.

42. UNICEF has developed very close collaboration with the OSCE/Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights in the area of combating trafficking in human beings, particularly within the context of the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe Task Force on prevention of trafficking in human beings. Within this Task Force, UNICEF is the lead agency for awareness raising. Since July 2001, UNICEF, OHCHR and OSCE/Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights have collaborated on and jointly funded an assessment of the situation and a mapping out of responses to trafficking in persons in south-east Europe. Their report summarizes the overall situation and gives an inventory of existing regional and

country-level anti-trafficking activities by Governments, international agencies and non-governmental organizations, provides an analysis of the victim assistance system in the region and makes recommendations for further action. Other examples of collaboration include Bosnia and Herzegovina, where the two organizations worked on developing monitoring and referral mechanisms for victims of trafficking in children. UNICEF is the lead agency for juvenile justice within the human rights Task Force chaired by OSCE and is closely working with OSCE and other Government and non-governmental partners to develop a comprehensive strategy. Juvenile justice is also an area of collaboration between the two organizations in the province of Kosovo. In Armenia, OSCE and UNICEF supported an IOM study on trafficking in women and children from that country. In Tajikistan, OSCE and UNICEF supported a Government conference which resulted in the creation of a national commission for child protection.

43. The UNICEF Regional Office has participated in conferences organized by the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights on Roma and Sinti issues, contributing to the deliberations and providing resource materials on the rights of children and women. UNICEF also presented recommendations on strengthening OSCE efforts in the area of children's rights during the 2001 Human Dimension Implementation Meeting in Warsaw. UNICEF and the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights also joined forces to conduct the 35-country "Young Voices" opinion poll of children and young people in Europe and Central Asia to gather the views of children aged between 9 and 17 on a wide range of issues. The overall objective of this survey was to strengthen democratic culture by taking into account the views of children and young persons in decision-making and promoting their meaningful participation in society.

I. World Food Programme

44. The World Food Programme (WFP) has continued mutually beneficial cooperation with OSCE in Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, especially since the OSCE civil registration campaign provided updated population figures to WFP for use in its programming for the first quarter of 2002. The OSCE contribution to stabilizing Government structures in the province, and to improving overall conditions, has led to appropriate conditions for WFP to phase out its presence at the end of June 2002.

J. International Organization for Migration

45. The International Organization for Migration, in cooperation with OSCE, has dealt mainly with elections and trafficking in persons. OSCE and IOM have enjoyed long-standing cooperation on absentee voting since 1996, first in Bosnia and Herzegovina and subsequently in Kosovo.

46. With regard to trafficking in persons in the framework of the Task Force on trafficking in human beings of the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe, IOM is responsible for coordinating return and reintegration assistance. Two other areas of concern are victim protection and awareness raising. The IOM Kosovo Direct Assistance Programme for Trafficked Women addresses the needs of women trafficked to or through Kosovo. Standard operating procedures govern cooperation between IOM, UNMIK and OSCE aimed at prevention, protection and prosecution and at strengthening local institutions accordingly. In Albania, OSCE and IOM cooperate to address issues of trafficking in persons, including the referral of victims through OSCE field offices. In the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, IOM and OSCE cooperate on a regular basis on counter-trafficking activities and promote legislative review and reform with regard to the smuggling of and trafficking in persons. Within the OSCE Human Dimension cooperation process in Armenia, IOM coordinates a working group on gender and trafficking. Since 1998, IOM and OSCE have cooperated extensively in the field of counter-trafficking in Ukraine. In Kyrgyzstan, IOM and OSCE have conducted jointly funded research on trafficking in persons, in particular women and children.

47. Other areas of cooperation include follow-up to the 1996 Geneva Conference on the Problems of Refugees, Displaced Persons, Migration and Asylum Issues, training in Poland of different border guard groups, and the organization in October 2001 in Almaty of a workshop on cross-border cooperation and the development of migration legislation. IOM also participates regularly in OSCE forum activities and is associated with the tripartite United Nations, OSCE and Council of Europe consultative mechanism.

III. Conclusions and recommendations

48. Specific efforts have been made to improve consultation and cooperation in the field and between the respective headquarters. These steps have resulted in enhanced coordination, with the aim of making better use of the resources of the international community in the interests of the countries being assisted. Currently, the United Nations retains the lead in efforts in Abkhazia, Georgia, and in Tajikistan, while OSCE has the lead in the Republic of Moldova, South Ossetia, Georgia, and in the resolution of the conflict in and around the Nagorny Karabakh region of Azerbaijan. The United Nations and OSCE should continue to practise a division of labour based on the comparative advantages of the two organizations.